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THE NEWSPAPER FOR DEAL, WALMER & SURROUNDING VILLAGES



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TROUBLED COUNCIL: THE REPORT IS OUT

WHAT'S ON & WATCH

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Meet artist and archaeologist Christine Finn at her Deal home. Search 'Finn'

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ISSN 2040559-6



HIGH SPEED TO LONDON

New 140mph Javelin trains are being tested on the tracks which run through Deal. They are being run to London through Dover Priory station to make sure that the network is capable of supporting them.

A full service is set to start in December, but a preview will take place later this month. Passengers wishing to take advantage need to catch a regular service to Ashford, where they can board the high-speed train to London. Journey time from Ashford to London St Pancras is scheduled at 37 minutes.

Preview services start on Monday, June 29, with tickets priced at £26.60 for a single fare.

EXCLUSIVE

■ BY MARIJKE COX

AN AUDIT report revealing alleged misconduct at Deal Town Council has been released into the public domain.

The decision by Bill Gardner, the Mayor of Deal, follows months of pressure from local Tories and Liberal Democrats to publish the document in full.

Cllr Gardner has repeatedly defended his policy of keeping the report under wraps, citing legal issues and solicitors' advice not to publish the document until an unfair dismissal claim by former deputy town clerk Stella Leitner was dealt with.

But last week, councillors agreed to settle at a £20,000 payment to Mrs Leitner, allowing the mayor to release the document.

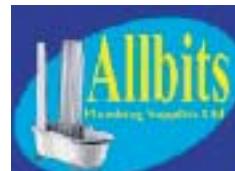
Negotiations are under way with insurers as to how much of that sum the council must pay.

Cllr Gardner said: "As the Mayor of Deal, I have over the last three months come under a lot of criticism, which I believe has been totally unfair; over my handling of the East Kent Audit Report into the running of Deal Town Council following the resignation of our previous deputy town clerk.

"A lot of people asked me to release this report even though they knew this was legally impossible.

"When Paul Turner [from the East Kent Audit Partnership] gave me the draft for checking, he made it very clear that until the

CONTINUED ON PAGE 3



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1 A group of teenagers were so shocked by the state of a graveyard that they cleaned it up. **Search 'vandalised'**



2 Roller-hockey champions Herne Bay United in their final game of the season. **Search 'hockey'**



3 Wrotham-based race team boss David Bartrum talks about his dream start to the season. **Search 'touring'**

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Family home is where the art is for Christine

■ BY NICK AMES

ARTIST Christine Finn has just completed the third year of an ambitious project which saw her family home transformed into a living exhibit.

What began as a cathartic exercise in dealing with the loss of both her parents was transformed into an investigation of the building where forgotten items told the story of the home and those who lived in it.

Christine – who is also an archaeologist and a journalist – used her disciplines to enable visitors to see everyday things in a new light.

The wall space left behind when a kitchen cupboard was removed or random objects on a mantelpiece assumed a new importance for those visitors who came through the door when the home was opened up as part of the Royal Institute of British Architects Architecture Week in 2007.

Christine said: "My father died of Parkinson's disease in 2004 and around the time of the first anniversary of his death my mother died too.

"When I came back to Deal everyone assumed I would sell the house, but I began to feel indignant about the idea of someone like a developer making money out of the house."

Christine began to search every room and take notice of what was there.

A BBC Radio 3 programme called Leaving Home was one of the first fruits of her examination of the house and its contents.

"I walked around the house as my mother had left it, and the rooms and objects revealed their stories," said Christine.

"I took pictures to record the clear-



ON SHOW: Christine Finn has turned her parents' house into an art installation

ing and storing of all the items. This suggested I should stay and revive the house as an art installation while continuing to live in it.

"It wasn't my intention to restore the house, just to show the changes it had undergone.

"It was damaged in the Second World War and then later by a flood.

"Doors had been panelled over and the exterior pebbledashed. There were also polystyrene ceiling tiles. These were all things I used to scoff at, but now I celebrated them."

The following year, Christine gathered objects on a mantelpiece for a display, while the latest instalment has involved the arrival of a cat called Sid and a room which contains objects put together at random and seen through a plastic sheet.

"I have found beauty in fragments of wallpaper and the 70s colour schemes revealed when I took down kitchen cupboards," said Christine.

"Now I am looking for a gallery to house all the objects."

yourdeal
NEWS IN BRIEF

Tourist guide to cash in on the strong euro

GUIDES promoting the attractions of Deal and the surrounding area are being printed in French and Dutch to attract more visitors to the area.

The move by local tourist groups is aimed at cashing in on the increase in visitors to the UK because of the strength of the euro against the pound.

Another plan is to send a representative to a tourist fair in Ostend which attracts up to 260,000 people from as far afield as Germany.

Pupils off to help out at school in Tanzania

A GROUP of Deal students at St Edmund's School are to spend three weeks in Tanzania.

The youngsters are due to fly out today (Wednesday) to stay at the Burguni School, which caters for deaf and blind children.

Their role will be to help the children, whose native tongue is Swahili, to learn English. They will also take classes in sports and the performing arts.

Credit crunch brings call for counsellors

AN APPEAL has gone out for volunteers to work at the Citizens Advice Bureau, which is seeing an upsurge in callers due to the recession.

Everyone from school-leavers to people who have been made redundant or have retired can come forward. Phone 01304 374333.

Fire-fighters clean up at charity car wash

A TEAM of Deal fire-fighters raised about £100 for the national Fire Fighters Charity when they set up a car wash.

They used their hoses to wash down cars at the fire station in Albert Road. They also supplied advice on home safety to car-owners and showed visiting children around the station.

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Miner to be returned to his pit community

Move in time for park gala

■ BY NICK AMES

IT'S going to be a tight deadline – but members of the Move the Miner campaign are confident the statue on Dover seafront will be in its new location in time for a festival commemorating the county's mining heritage.

Planning permission has now been sought from Dover District Council to relocate the sculpture, which is set to be re-erected at the entrance to Fowlmead Park on the A258 between Deal and Sandwich.

The current location of the statue of the miner is along Dover seafront – an incongruous setting, according to members of the campaign to reset it.

"It's just in a public garden gazing out to sea, which means nothing really," said Move The Miner chairman Gary Cox.

"We want it to be in a place which people can recognise as having something to do with mining."

The planning application to move the miner went in on Monday, June 8, and should be decided on by Monday, August 3.

That would leave just over three weeks for it to be moved to its new location in time for the festival on Monday, August 31.

The event is being staged to commemorate the 20th anniversary of the closing of the last Kent pit. Bettehanger, Tilmanstone, Chislet and Snowdown mines were all operational during the Kent coalfield's heyday and employed thousands of miners.

It is their legacy which the festival aims to celebrate.

"We really do want the statue in place for the festival," said Mr Cox. "It would be a great way to mark the anniversary."

"The story of the Kent miner is not finished – the pits may have closed, but the communities remain."

The festival, which will take place in Fowlmead Park, near the site of Bettehanger colliery, will resemble an old-time mining gala.

Mr Cox said: "Families and other visitors will arrive at the site in old-style buses, just as they would have done in the past."

"There will be a brass band and a choir, as well as other attractions. We will also be attempting to tell the story of mining in Kent."

"Many children and even older people do not know that we ever had coal mines here, and sadly the shafts are filled in, most of the buildings demolished and the pits capped."

"So we want to make sure that the story of the mines, the men who worked in them and the communities which grew up around them are not forgotten. That is why we are hoping to make this festival an annual event."



WAY AHEAD: The statue on Dover seafront is to be moved to Fowlmead Park, near the site of Bettehanger colliery

Audit report is published on website

FROM FRONT PAGE

interim report was available and an action plan by the council had been approved by him, I couldn't release it. This approval was given two weeks ago.

"I was also advised by our solicitors that the report could not be released until the council had resolved Mrs Leitner's case.

"The council has as of Wednesday agreed to settle this claim."

Cllr Gardner has published the document, which highlights the activities of a number of Labour councillors and the town clerk on the council website, www.deal.gov.uk, under the heading EKAP Report 2009. It is also available at Deal Library.

Conservative councillor Wayne Elliot is pleased the document is finally out in the open but still has reservations.

"I think the public should have had it right at the beginning – it's almost too little too late now," he said.

Tory town councillor Trevor Bond told Yourdeal that Conservative councillors were unhappy about the payoff to Mrs Leitner and had voted against the amount but were outvoted by Labour members.

Get on your bike to help NSPCC put a stop to child cruelty

AN NSPCC supporter from Walmer is calling for people to take part in this month's Deal and Walmer Big Bike Ride.

Beverley-Jayne Last says the event, on Sunday, June 28, which covers 10 miles, goes along the seafront and then the Ancient Highway to Mary Bax's Stone.

There will be refreshments at Chequers before a return to Walmer beach for a barbecue.

The event is part of the NSPCC's national Big Bike Ride, which is sponsored by Network Rail.

This will be the event's fourth year and see adults and children of all ages and fitness levels pedalling to help ensure that no child's cry for help goes unheard.

Beverley-Jayne said: "This is a perfect day out for all the family."

"If you've got a bike, then why not do something brilliant with it this summer and raise money to help end cruelty to children?"

The event, which is backed by Olympic hero Sir Chris Hoy (pic-

tured), will raise money for the NSPCC's £50 million Child's Voice appeal to fund the expansion of both the ChildLine service and the charity's helpline.

An NSPCC spokesman said:

"The funds will mean that ChildLine volunteers can counsel more than one million calls every year."

"Likewise, the appeal will enable the NSPCC to expand its helpline to protect babies, toddlers and other vulnerable children."

Entry into the Deal and Walmer Big Bike Ride costs £5 for adults, with under-14s going free.

Registration is at 10.45am at Walmer Castle beach car park and the ride begins at 11am.

For more details, log on to www.bigbikeride.co.uk, or phone 01293 651840 for an entry form.



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Long life 'due to diet of herrings'

A CHURCH service and family lunch have been held to mark the 100th birthday of a woman who says a diet of herrings in her formative years has helped her live so long.

Connie Barber was born in Deal but moved to Scole, in Norfolk, during the Second World War with the family she worked for as a lady's companion.

Her family got together recently in East Anglia to remember the old days.

After she left Deal, Connie met George Barber, who lived in Chickering, and the couple married in 1942.

They had three children – Rita, Georgie and Kenny – and now she has six grandchildren and six great-grandchildren. Mr Barber died in 1972.

Her daughter Georgie O'Shaughnessy said: "Her longevity may be due to her diet. As a youngster she had plenty of herrings. Living near the sea, they were in plentiful supply."

Cash is available for local projects

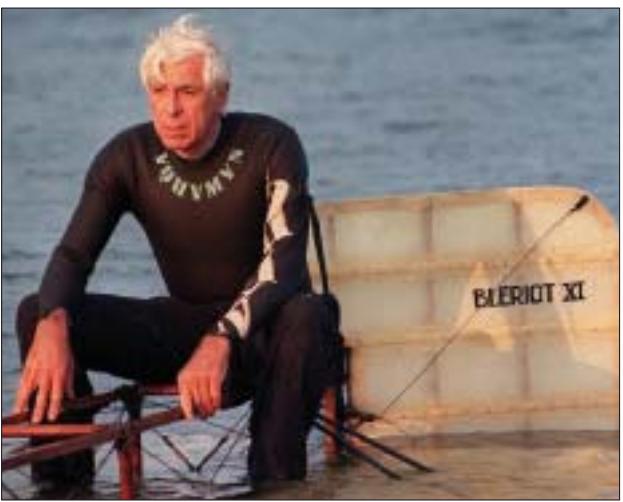
COMMUNITY groups are being offered grants of up to £5,000 from the Dover District Neighbourhood Forums.

Dover District Council and Kent County Council have given funding to the forums to give out to local projects.

Voluntary and community organisations are being invited to apply for the grants, as long as they can show their venture benefits the community.

Application packs are available from KCC community liaison managers Emma Carey or Anne Charman, or can be downloaded from DDC's website www.dover.gov.uk/neighbourhoodforums/funding.asp.

The closing date for applications is Wednesday, September 30, 2009.



SINKING FEELING: Blériot's grandson Louis looks forlorn after his disastrous effort

Powered crossings have not always been so successful

PREPARATIONS are well under way to celebrate 100 years since Louis Blériot's historic first Channel flight and it's good that we will mark the event in July.

However, cast your mind back to 1998, the 89th anniversary.

That was significant because Blériot's grandson Louis, then 54, attempted to re-enact his ancestor's historic moment, in a replica Blériot XI.

I was in France at dawn on Sunday, July 26, 1998, to see the attempt fail spectacularly.

The monoplane had been sat under a gazebo in a field to be admired for almost two days and nights before the weather was deemed perfect for the attempt.

Hundreds of people had been allowed to poke and prod the aircraft for the previous 48 hours and at the time I remember thinking had this been England we would not have been allowed quite so close.

It was, as I recall, around 6am in a field a couple of hundred yards from the beach (now called Blériot-Plage) that hundreds gathered to see the take-off.

The 'young' Blériot clambered into the cockpit and accelerated

■ BY GARY WRIGHT

across a field away from the sea, into the wind. He lifted off, climbed 100ft or so, then banked right, turning toward the sea.

And he just continued banking right, effectively spiralling toward the ground and disappearing behind a grass ridge.

I dashed a couple of hundred yards across the field, overtaking shocked French spectators, to the top of the ridge expecting to see a splattered mess.

Instead I saw Blériot in a huge square lake (some described it as a pond) clambering out.

He had an advantage over his grandfather: the plane was stuffed with polystyrene to ensure it floated had he ditched in the Channel.

He never got that far. An undignified end to a brave attempt and I remember feeling sorry for this adventurer as he sat in a lake on the tailpiece waiting to be rescued.

Let's hope the Swedish pilot who will attempt the same feat on the memorial weekend is more successful... and he keeps the public away from his replica.

Rising to the challenge of the Channel

EXACTLY what flashed through the mind of Louis Blériot as he approached the white cliffs of Dover in 1909 piloting his primitive monoplane is hard to say.

Most likely it was a mix of elation at being the first to make the Channel crossing in an aircraft and also relief his frail flying machine held together just long enough to make the journey.

The intrepid French inventor and adventurer had put everything on the line to make the 22-mile crossing from Le Barraques near Calais, which marked a massive milestone in the advancement of aviation.

As the son of a wealthy fabric manufacturer, he had sunk an untold fortune into developing a series of planes. His own extensive resources were amassed through creating car headlamps, and the engineering skills he learnt in Paris led him to investigate glider-flying.

Construction

After producing eight powered flight prototypes of varying success, he devised the wire-framed Blériot XI which would see him across the Channel. Its lightweight construction meant it could be easily taken apart and prepared for flight in about 30 minutes. This gave it the edge over fierce rivals the Wright Brothers, whose planes were reportedly taking five or six hours to ready.



AMBITION: Louis Blériot took 37 minutes to cross the Channel in his monoplane in 1909

In the world of aviation, it seems the old adage that 'money talks' is as true as it is with any industry. Blériot was spurred on to challenge the Channel by a competition in the Daily Mail newspaper which was offering £1,000 to whoever could achieve the Channel-hopping feat.

How hard could it possibly be? Given that the Channel had already been crossed by a hydrogen balloon as long ago as 1785 by American doctor John Jeffries, it seemed a realistic goal.

So when you consider just how much the prize money was in today's terms (around £100,000), it's not hard to understand Blériot's motivation.

But he was not alone in his ambitions – a fellow Frenchman (of English birth) Hubert Latham tried his hand at the task but crashed mid-Channel and the other contender, French-born aristocrat Charles de Lambert, was injured during test flights.

Proving just what a risky business it was, Blériot himself had burnt his foot when one of his test planes crashed.

However, with single-minded determination, the 37-year-old pilot set off at about 4.30am on July 25 in his fragile-looking plane that rattled out 25 horse-power from its three-cylinder engine.

He faced numerous challenges en route, including rain, wind and

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With celebrations planned in both Kent and France to mark the 100th anniversary of the first powered flight across the Channel, **Neill Barston** looks back on pioneering aviator Louis Blériot's journey.



INTACT: The Blériot XI plane flown in the successful attempt can still be seen at a museum in Paris; the picture below was taken during the few moments of flight achieved by Blériot's grandson during a tribute crossing bid



poor visibility, which almost took him off his course entirely.

He reported in a telegram to the Washington Post after losing sight of the French destroyer that had been assigned to follow his progress that "I am alone. I can see nothing at all. For ten minutes I am lost".

With more than a little fortune he regained his bearings and made a relatively clean landing in a time of 37 minutes.

His achievement was to prove the launchpad for an influential career that saw him produce more than 800 aircraft before the First World War, though a number of these were found to have faults.

Business

Ironing out these glitches, he was commissioned to provide more than 5,000 military aircraft for Allied forces during the First World War.

He is also regarded as a pioneer of sports aviation as many wealthy businessmen clamoured to get their hands on his planes for recreational flying. This led to him setting up several flight schools in England.

By the time of his retirement from flying in 1927, he was on hand to congratulate Charles Lindbergh on his transatlantic flight which took the aviation industry even further across our skies.

Many have attempted to follow in the footsteps of Blériot's feat, including a re-enactment attempt in 1998 by his grandson.

The year following Blériot's success, John Bevins Moisant became the first person to carry passengers on a plane across the Channel. But the first woman to fly across,

Harriet Quimby, on April 16, 1912, received little media coverage as the Titanic had sunk the evening before.

Fast-forward a century and you'll still take a similar amount of time as Blériot to traverse the Channel in around half an hour via the Channel Tunnel.

It may not have quite the same romanticism as the flight pioneer's mode of transport, but it's surely a lot more comfortable than the cramped cockpit of an early-20th-century monoplane with a reputation for hard landings.

Rather impressively, the original Blériot XI plane still survives and is on display at the Musée des Arts et Métiers in Paris and a host of activities has been organised on both sides of the Channel to mark the 100th anniversary of the crossing.

To celebrate the anniversary, the Channel Hop joint initiative has been created between Kent County Council and the Pas-de-Calais Conseil Général.

It includes events in both regions such as discovery trails for French and English schoolchildren, art exhibitions and guided walks.

Among the celebrations on offer for aircraft fans will be this weekend's Big Event in Margate, featuring a range of air displays, live music and fairground attractions.

Plans are also in place for a historic air show and fireworks display in Dover on the weekend of July 25-26. This includes re-enactments from Blériot XI planes and an RAF flypast.

• For more information about the events, visit www.thechannelhop.co.uk

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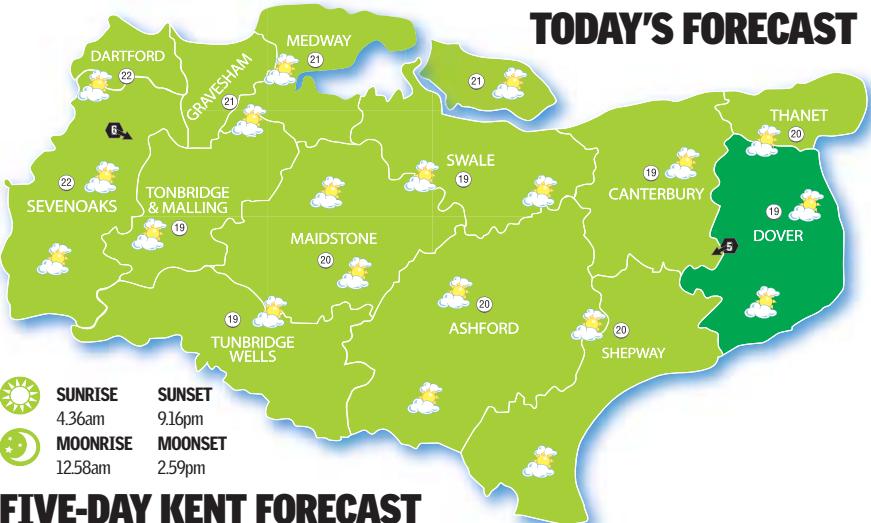
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WEEKEND HIGH TIDES

Chatham	Saturday	11:13am	5.5m
	Sunday	12:11pm	5.7m
Dover	Saturday	9:20am	5.9m
	Sunday	10:16am	6.2m
Dungeness	Saturday	9:38am	6.6m
	Sunday	10:31am	7.0m
Ramsgate	Saturday	9:50am	4.5m
	Sunday	10:46am	4.7m
Sheerness	Saturday	11:02am	5.3m
	Sunday	12:00pm	5.4m
Whitstable	Saturday	11:03am	4.8m
	Sunday	12:00pm	4.9m

AROUND THE WORLD YESTERDAY

Amsterdam	18°C	Madrid	29°C
Athens	29°C	New York	19°C
Barcelona	25°C	Paris	16°C
Beijing	28°C	Rome	29°C
Bombay	32°C	Sydney	17°C
Cape Town	17°C	Tenerife	23°C
Cardiff	16°C	Tokyo	22°C
Gibraltar	28°C	Vancouver	18°C
Hong Kong	31°C	Warsaw	22°C
Las Palmas	25°C	Wellington	13°C

FIVE-DAY KENT FORECAST

	Thur	Fri	Sat	Sun	Mon		Thur	Fri	Sat	Sun	Mon
Ashford	20°C	20°C	20°C	20°C	20°C	Gravesend	21°C	21°C	22°C	22°C	21°C
Canterbury	19°C	21°C	21°C	20°C	20°C	Maidstone	21°C	21°C	21°C	21°C	21°C
Chatham	19°C	20°C	20°C	19°C	19°C	Ramsgate	19°C	21°C	21°C	20°C	20°C
Dartford	21°C	21°C	22°C	22°C	21°C	Rochester	19°C	20°C	20°C	19°C	19°C
Dover	17°C	19°C	18°C	19°C	18°C	Sevenoaks	20°C	20°C	20°C	20°C	20°C
Faversham	19°C	20°C	20°C	19°C	19°C	Sittingbourne	19°C	20°C	20°C	19°C	19°C
Folkestone	17°C	19°C	18°C	19°C	18°C	Tonbridge	20°C	21°C	21°C	21°C	21°C
Gillingham	19°C	20°C	20°C	19°C	19°C	Tun Wells	20°C	21°C	21°C	21°C	21°C

Princely sum of visit is slammed

PRINCE Andrew has come under fire for using a helicopter to get to a golf course just outside Deal where he gave a talk.

The Duke of York was criticised for not using a cheaper form of travel by Liberal Democrat MP Norman Baker, who said the public would demand the resignation of any politician who spent taxpayers' money in this way.

On Friday the Prince spent about an hour at the Royal Cinque Ports Golf Club, where he ate "a moderate amount" of canapés and spoke "entirely about golf", according to The Daily Telegraph. He is a patron of the club.

The helicopter containing Andrew, his bodyguard, pilot and co-pilot took off from his Royal Lodge home in Windsor at 6.10pm and arrived at the course about 45 minutes later.

He then made a short speech about the history of the club and left after about an hour, flying back home.

Making the journey by train would have taken three-and-a-half hours, but it would have cost just £30.70. Driving the 113 miles would have taken about two-and-a-half hours.

The Royal Family spent £2.2 million on helicopters last year, according to palace accounts.

Mr Baker said: "If MPs used their travel expenses this way, the public would demand their resignation."

Recently Jack Straw exempted the Royal Family from Freedom of Information requests, but if the Royal Family is to spend public money they should be publicly accountable and show they are providing value for money."

A spokesman for the Prince said he would have missed the event if he had not used a helicopter because of his schedule that day.

He said Andrew had finished a tour of a Marks and Spencer store in Sandhurst at 4.15pm and pointed out that driving to the club would have also resulted in three police forces having to pay for escorts.

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QUESTION & ANSWER

CHRISTOPHE SANTONI



Q & A

The managing director of ferry company LD Lines talks to **Nick Ames** about the perks of the job, plus how his high-speed craft will change the face of Channel-hopping and give travellers an alternative to Eurotunnel

Q How did you first get involved with LD Lines?

A I joined parent company LDA [Louis Dreyfus Armateurs Group] in 2003 to set up LD Lines as a new diversification in the liner business.

Our first ambition was to develop a liner roll-on/roll-off activity as a logical continuation of our development in the roll-on/roll-off business with the contract we'd just signed with Airbus Industrie for the carriage of the parts of their new A380 model.

Q The last few months have been very busy with the launch of the new services and then the announcement of a fast-ferry. How are you feeling about LD Lines progress on the Channel routes?

A The expansion of LD Lines on the Channel has been rapid. We've had opportunities along the way, such as the takeover of the Dieppe/Newhaven service and the new ferry terminal in Boulogne, that we decided to grasp, as getting access and slots in Channel ports is not something that happens easily.

One of our strong points is our ability to take quick decisions and invest money to implement several developments at the same time.

Q What do you think makes LD Lines different from other ferry services on the Dover Strait?

A LD Lines is today the only ferry company to provide services both on the Western Channel and now the Dover Strait.

We believe that providing an extended network to our freight and passenger customers represents a major advantage, as it allows them to choose from an extensive network of routes with the flexibility to mix and alternate their travel arrangements.

LD Lines will become the first company to introduce the first high-speed craft on the Dover Strait capable of carrying freight and tourist traffic. For the first time, high-speed craft will be able to rely on both freight and passenger sectors, making its business model different from previous fast-ferry operators.

Last but not least, passengers and road hauliers will now be offered a choice to cross the Channel in a very competitive time compared with Eurotunnel.

Q Are you confident that in the current economy it will continue to flourish?

A Present economic conditions represent a major challenge for the whole ferry industry, and obviously for LD Lines as well. Such difficult trading periods require and create opportunities for innovation and competitiveness in our opinion, and this is exactly what LD Lines is trying to do.

Q What is the hardest part of your job as managing director of the company?

A I can't really complain about my job as I find the present period very exciting and challenging. Most difficult is probably to make

sure that the LD Lines organisation is adapting permanently in a way that it can cope with the growing activity of the company.

Q What is the best thing about being managing director of a company like LD Lines?

A Definitely the variety of tasks and the human contact with a wide range of people.

Q What is the next step for the company and are there any noteworthy plans for the year ahead?

A We want to establish our new concept of a high-speed craft for passengers and freight and develop it further.

Q How do you think LD Lines can benefit Dover?

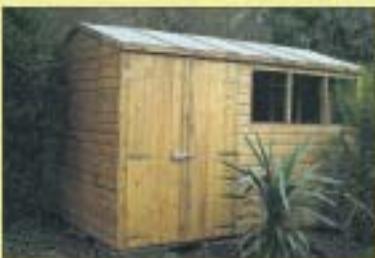
A LD Lines is developing a new concept that can be beneficial to Dover to further increase its competitive appeal compared with Eurotunnel. There is no doubt that shipping needs innovation to be able to compete with other modes of transport and we sincerely believe that this next generation of high-speed craft will further enhance our new concept.

• For more information about crossings with LD Lines, or to book a trip, visit www.ldlines.co.uk, or call 0844 576 8836 for tourists, or 0844 576 8837 for freight. LD Lines runs daily crossings from Dover to Dieppe and from Dover to Boulogne. The high-speed craft will run from Dover to Boulogne.

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Starlet Ebony Johnson, 21, performs Leonard Cohen's Hallelujah. Search 'Ebony'



LibDem leader Nick Clegg congratulates the Gurkhas in Kent. Search 'Clegg'

EDITOR'S CHOICE

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Landlord's high hopes for Scarecrow of the South

■ BY JAMES ALEXANDRE

A 100ft statue dubbed the Scarecrow of the South could soon be welcoming visitors to Romney Marsh and be seen as far away as France.

Based on legendary fictional smuggler Dr Syn, the prospective landmark could be south Kent's answer to Mark Wallinger's White Horse monument to be built at Ebbsfleet – which has been called the Angel of the South.

This would see Kent have two new tourist attractions to bring in visitors.

The statue project is the brainchild of pub landlord and author Niko Miaoulis and artist Terry Anthony, who together have continued to promote the character inspired by Russell Thorndike's novels.

The idea is still in its early stages, but land has already been set aside for the statue at Haguelands Farm and informal discussions are taking place with Shepway council.

Mr Anthony, whose paintings of Dr Syn have been used in novels and DVD covers, said the idea came about when he and Niko were discussing how best to refurbish the 500-year-old Ship Inn.

He said: "We were talking about creating a smuggling theme in the pub and there was a suggestion of a statue outside the entrance and it just grew from there."

"Using statues as huge pieces of art seems to be in vogue at the moment and it's just what the marsh needs. It's not a rival to the horse in Ebbsfleet – that's a long way away from here – but it would be an incredible draw."

"It is an unusual idea. I'm pretty sure there will be objections, but 90 per cent of the people I've spoken to think it's wonderful."



STRIKING: A Scarecrow of the South could join the planned White Horse to decorate the county's skyline

Landlord Mr Miaoulis, who has relaunched the Ship Inn as a shrine to the Dr Syn myth, said: "The story is firmly rooted in local history. The character itself can be traced back to the 1700s and is an amalgam of three different people."

"The idea just snowballed and there's been a huge groundswell of support."

"The geography of the marsh lends itself to it. We can already see pylons and wind turbines, which are not exactly pretty, but this would be something meaningful for the marsh."

"It would be a very public monument and will probably even be seen from France."

Initial estimates suggest the statue could be 60ft-100 ft high but would not dominate the landscape in the same way as the wind turbines or pylons. By comparison, a turbine is about 400 ft in height. The statue would be made out of black stainless steel to withstand all weathers, with the maize maze site at Haguelands Farm touted as a possible location.

Mr Anthony said last year's DVD release of Disney's 1964 film of the story, which starred Patrick McGoohan, had generated even more interest in the character's mythology.

He said: "If they commission a remake, it would be the icing on the cake. I'm not sure how they would do it, but the scarecrow could be silhouetted and would make for a fabulous backdrop."

Leading London theatre producer Mark Sinden and Chris Hogben, star of TV's Bargain Hunt, have also thrown their support behind the project.

BBC bids farewell to Bev and Geoff

BBC South East Today has axed its two presenters – Geoff Clark and Beverly Thompson.

The duo had presented the weekday news programme from studios in Tunbridge Wells for the last five years.

But last week they were told they were to be replaced by the younger duo of Polly Evans and Rob Smith.

Mr Clark (right) – who moved to the BBC from Meridian in 2004 and is credited with transforming its viewing figures – will not have his contract extended when it expires in October. Mrs Thompson will remain with the programme in a different capacity. Both are said to be upset by the decision.



The BBC's head of region, Mick Rawsthorne, said: "We know viewers will miss Bev and Geoff and I can assure the audience this decision was not taken lightly. Both are excellent presenters in their own right and their warm, engaging, humorous partnership has been the backbone of the programme for five years."

"There have been some fabulous moments and I really want to thank them for all their hard work."

"This move represents a development of the programme which covers an area that sits at the heart of some of today's biggest stories."

"Our audiences tell us they want to see the big news stories affecting the region and these changes reflect the more journalistic approach that viewers are asking for in today's climate."

South East Today TV editor Quentin Smith said: "Both Rob and Polly are already known to viewers as much for their professionalism in reporting as for their presenting abilities."

"They have both developed their skills here at South East Today, and while I know Bev and Geoff will be a hard act to follow, we hope viewers will take Rob and Polly to their hearts."

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STUDIO 1 08.30 - 09.15 Boxercise 09.30 - 10.30 BLT Blitz 10.30 - 11.30 Hi/Lo Swiss Ball 11.40 - 12.40 Body Combat 14.30 - 15.30 Young at Heart 18.00 - 19.00 Body Combat 19.10 - 20.10 Body Pump 20.15 - 21.30 Yoga	STUDIO 1 06.45 - 07.30 Body Pump 09.15 - 10.15 Boxercise 10.30 - 11.30 Body Pump 12.15 - 13.00 Step 18.00 - 19.00 Step 19.00 - 20.15 Fitness Yoga	STUDIO 1 09.30 - 10.30 BLT Blitz 10.45 - 11.45 Total Body Blast 14.30 - 15.30 Young at Heart 19.00 - 20.00 Body Combat 20.00 - 21.00 Body Pump	STUDIO 1 09.30 - 10.30 Body Pump 18.00 - 19.00 Boxercise 19.00 - 20.00 Total Body Blast 20.00 - 21.00 Swiss Ball Blitz	STUDIO 1 09.30 - 10.30 Step 10.30 - 11.30 Body Combat 14.30 - 15.30 Young at Heart 18.00 - 19.00 Body Pump	STUDIO 1 08.00 - 08.15 Body Clinic 08.15 - 09.15 Body Combat 09.30 - 10.30 Body Pump 13.00 - 14.00 Fit Club (6-8 years)
SPIN STUDIO 06.45 - 07.30 Early Spin 09.30 - 10.15 'Vibe' Spin 20.15 - 21.00 Spin	SPIN STUDIO 11.45 - 12.30 Advanced Spin 18.00 - 18.30 Begin to Spin 19.00 - 19.45 Spin	SPIN STUDIO 06.45 - 07.30 Early Spin 09.45 - 10.30 Spin 17.45 - 18.30 Spin	SPIN STUDIO 08.00 - 08.45 Spin 11.30 - 12.15 Spin 19.30 - 20.15 Advanced Spin	SPIN STUDIO 06.45 - 07.30 Early Spin 09.15 - 10.00 Advanced Spin 19.00 - 19.45 Spin	SPIN STUDIO 13.00 - 13.45 Spin
MIND & BODY 12.15 - 13.45 Yoga 17.45 - 18.30 Abs Stretch & Tone 18.30 - 19.45 Pilates	MIND & BODY 09.45 - 11.15 Yoga 13.30 - 14.45 Yoga 20.00 - 20.45 Glide & Sculpt	MIND & BODY 12.30 - 13.30 Pilates 13.30 - 14.30 Chi Ball 16.00 - 17.30 Power Yoga 18.00 - 19.00 Stretch & Tone 19.00 - 20.30 Pilates	MIND & BODY 09.45 - 11.15 Yoga 11.30 - 12.30 Pilates 18.00 - 19.00 Pilates	MIND & BODY 10.15 - 11.45 Yoga	MIND & BODY 08.15 - 09.00 Abs, Stretch & Tone 09.30 - 10.30 Pilates 11.30 - 12.30 Pilates
AQUA 10.30 - 11.15 Aqua 19.30 - 20.15 Aqua	AQUA 11.15 - 12.00 Aqua Attack	AQUA 12.15 - 13.00 Aqua	AQUA 11.30 - 12.15 Aqua 20.15 - 21.00 Aqua	AQUA 11.30 - 12.15 Aqua 20.15 - 21.00 Aqua	AQUA 11.15 - 12.00 Aqua Attack
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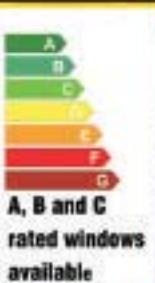
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Market celebrates fruitful first year

Join the party as venture keeps growing



Support local producers at one-stop website

THE success of the farmers' market is once again underlining the importance and popularity of buying fresh local and in-season produce.

These values lie at the very heart of KOS Media's 2009 campaign.

Spearheaded by our www.foodforkent.co.uk website - which brings together a host of the county's top suppliers under one online roof- we are urging our readers to support local growers and suppliers. Not only does this boost the local economy and protect jobs and our rural heritage, but the food tastes great and contains all the nutrients and vitamins we need to stay fit and healthy.

What's more, you'll find an awful lot of the time, the prices of the goods available make it cheaper than a trip to your local supermarket.

- Check it out for yourself today. Log on to www.foodforkent.co.uk.

Buy fresh from growers at garden centre event

A FARMERS' market will be held at McFarlane's Garden Centre, Swingfield, on the A269 near Folkestone, from 10am to 2pm today (Wednesday). Entry is free.

- Call 01304 844244 for more details.

THE popular Elham Farmers' Market will celebrate its first anniversary this weekend with a slice of birthday cake for everyone.

The market has offered seasonal produce from local growers to villagers and visitors twice a month for the past year and has been a roaring success.

The anniversary will be marked with balloons, apple-bobbing for children and a piece of cake for all visitors, from Gatehouse Farm in North Elham.

Sunday will also see the first visit of Fish from Hastings and Rye, selling a selection of locally-caught wet and smoked fish.

The market's popularity has soared in its first 12 months and has attracted a loyal following on the second and fourth Sundays of each month.

Folkestone-born TV chef Phil Vickery has been a supporter of the market from day one, not just because he began his culinary journey by working at the Rose and Crown pub in the village.

He said: "Congratulations to the local producers for providing such a range of high-quality goods and to the shoppers for recognising and appreciating the value of good seasonal local food produced by people who care."

Each market has about a dozen stalls boasting pork, lamb, beef, game, breads, fruit and veg, flowers, plants, and vegetable seeds, cakes, pies, curries, jams, chutneys, eggs, apple juice, cheese, olives and fish. It takes place from 10.30am to 12.30pm at the Rose and Crown.

Anne Leva, Elham Farmers' market manager, said: "Throughout this first year, we have achieved our aims of providing locally-produced food for the benefit of consumers and producers.

"Elham Farmers' Market is a popular place for shoppers to meet and buy quality, local food at fair prices.

"It helps the environment by reducing food miles and encourages healthy eating by making fresh, high-quality food available in season and at realistic prices."

June markets are the best time to discover the tastes of early summer. The first Kentish fruit is available, so strawberries and gooseberries can replace rhubarb on the menu. Asparagus is still around, but young broad beans, peas and new potatoes can be enjoyed with new season lamb.

- For more information about the market visit www.elhamfarmersmarket.co.uk



foodforkent.co.uk

We are committed to adding more local suppliers to our online service and any local business or producer that wishes to join our campaign should contact us at feedback@kosmedia.co.uk

Calling the tune boosts cancer charity funds

A MUSIC school has raised £700 for Macmillan Cancer at its annual concert.

All Sorts Of Music, in Ham, held the show at St Mary's Church, Sandwich, where students as young as four took to the stage.

A host of world-class performers also got involved, giving their time for free in aid of the charity.

Director Kate Griffin, who opened the school just over a year ago, said she was thrilled with how it all went.

"I am so pleased to have raised money for Macmillan. Cancer has affected my family, some of our students and friends of our students," she said.

"It was lovely to see our students perform, to see how some have progressed and to see some of our new students perform.

"Despite the hard work involved, I now can't wait for next year's concert."

During the concert, ten promising students were awarded medals for their achievements, while Natasha Williams, aged 11,

■ BY MARIJKE COX

received a shield for pupil of the year. The youngster studies piano, flute and clarinet, as well as music theory.

All Sorts Of Music caters for children as young as six months up to adults, and has teaching methods for students with special needs.

Ms Griffin is planning summer music lessons to run from August 10-13, when anyone can go along and join workshops.

The school has also been offered the opportunity to work with a West End theatre producer who will run a musical theatre workshop.

Successful students will be offered private auditions with one of the West End's leading bookers.

For lessons in school – or privately at evening and weekends – in piano, saxophone, clarinet, drums, flute, guitar, trumpet/cornet, voice and music theory, contact Ms Griffin via www.allsortsofmusic.co.uk for a free trial lesson. Lessons start at £4.

BREAK TIME

A world of difference at Olympics show

A VARIETY show has been held at St Edmund's Catholic School in Dover to celebrate the cultural diversity of the Olympics.

The school is one of many in Kent championing the Olympic ideal of Five Rings, Oe World, which aims to capture the international and cultural aspect of the games.

The Around The World show began with a film from year ten students Marc Thorp, Ashley and Connor Pound showing interviews with staff and pupils about what the Olympics means to them.

Different styles of dance and music from around the world were then presented and year 12 student Louise Orfila and year 13 Flora Bainbridge wowed the crowd with singing performances.

The second half of the show saw pupils from St Richard's Catholic School dancing



to Jai Ho from Slumdog Millionaire. Teachers also got involved during the finale with an Abba medley and a performance of the New Zealand All Blacks' Maori Haka challenge.

Archers Court is to serve up a celebration

TECHNOLOGY students at Archers Court Maths and Computing College are getting ready to showcase their work at a celebration evening at the school.

Catering students will prepare food for the event on Thursday, June 25, and serve guests. Projects from each year group will

be on display and there will also be a fashion show presenting clothing designed and made by GCSE and A-level textile students. Prizes will be awarded to the lower-school pupils who have produced the best home learning assignments over the course of the year.



MEDAL CITIZENS: Front, from left, Alfie Barker, Nathalie Kendrick, Sam Ring, Hannah Spice, Orla Cox; back, Kate Griffin, Scarlett Watson, Laura Watts, Natasha Williams, Jennifer Plant and Kyanna Hayes of All Sorts Of Music



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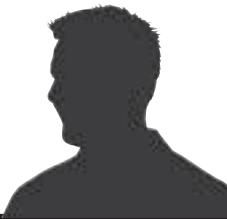
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What is the point of teams like Andorra playing on the international stage?



Give football's minnow nations a little World Cup of their own

THE England v Andorra qualifying match for next year's World Cup was a nice little run out for our top players, who are now all away on a beach somewhere.

And they left in style – 6-0 was a good result even if their opponents were really nothing more than an average non-league team.

They would probably turn over Ashford or Folkestone – but I think Dover Athletic might be a bit too much for them.

And, as the argument goes, you can only beat the opposition you are set up against.

But the question remains, should nations such as England even be playing against the likes of Andorra?

The same night as England triumphed, the Faroe Islands were in action and got away with a 2-0 home defeat to Serbia.

Malta played as well and lost 4-0 to Sweden.

Not in action were such giants of the European game as San Marino – actually ranked at 191 in the world, just below Bhutan

and Macau, various offshoots of the old Asian part of the USSR and even places such as Luxembourg, who have always played in European qualification to no avail whatsoever.

But I don't feel smaller nations should be deprived of the chance to play in the World Cup.

Cricket and rugby have offered the ideal solution. Have a preliminary tournament, with these countries in a group on their own.

San Marino v Malta might be competitive. At least the players from both sides would improve in proper games, not one-sided massacres.

They would learn to play together and attack – not just pack their own penalty area and try to foul anyone who makes a run at them.

And if enough of these groups – such as another one for the Eastern Europeans – could be set up, the winners of each could play off.

Then the winners of a sort of minnows world cup could have a shot at qualification for the tournament itself by playing the third-placed team in Oceania, or the fourth best side in Asia, or the runners-up from North America.

That way they would actually have a realistic chance of playing in the finals themselves.

Fans of mid-ranking countries may find this unfair, but at least the likes of Belarus, Norway and Latvia can compete against Italy, Holland and Germany.

This appears so sensible, I wonder why it isn't done.

Oh yes, I realise now.

Money.

Every match played is a chance to get in a crowd to sell replica shirts, burgers and hotdogs and have the TV rights haggled over.

Also there is the vote – every country has one, so I don't suppose the Maltese FA will miss out on the odd money-spinner against France.

But a look at the wider picture might see their football progress to a point where it is worthwhile them playing the game and not getting thrashed every time they take the field.

EDITOR'S NOTE: All blogs are supplied with full name and address of the authors. They do not reflect the view of the newspaper but are designed to give our readers the chance to air their views.

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yourletters

TALK TIME

**HANNAH
JOYCE**

The founder of east Kent company Virtual Girl Friday talks about the need to tackle the admin tasks that just won't go away



Tell us a little about yourself

I'm 25 and I have recently set up a virtual PA and lifestyle management company called Virtual Girl Friday, which is aimed at SMEs and sole traders in south-east Kent. Virtual Girl Friday offers a remote PA and office manager service – a cross between a PA, a project manager and a lifestyle concierge.

What gave you the inspiration for Virtual Girl Friday?

It was an idea I had several months ago when I found I had modernised all the procedures in my current job.

Everything was running sufficiently without me there on a full-time basis and I realised that many SMEs could benefit from part-time or *ad hoc* administrative support. In my years as an in-house PA and office manager, I have noticed that outdated processes, mounting paperwork and ever-growing to-do lists only serve to cause the owners of small businesses to stress.

Ultimately, admin can keep them away from doing whatever it was they went into businesses for in the first place. That's where a virtual PA comes in: in the current economic climate, no business-owner wants to take on new administrative members of staff and many, sadly, have to cut back on those they already employ. However, admin tasks take no notice of economic downturn – they will always be there. In outsourcing to Virtual Girl Friday, you avoid PAYE, National Insurance and other overheads such as office space, equipment and holiday and sickness pay – perfect for small businesses in a recession.

• Find out more at www.virtualgirlfriday.info

YOUR LETTERS

Mob denying us right to choose

I consider myself to be a fair-minded, liberal person, and as an atheist I certainly do not share the same 'right-wing Christian' values as the BNP's Nick Griffin MEP.

But whether I like it or not, he is a democratically-elected member of the European Parliament and he was not the first MEP to speak to the Press in front of the Westminster Parliament.

Neither was he the first politician to be targeted by a mob that appears to be afraid of the democratic principle known as free speech.

After all, Mr Griffin was not even talking about the taboo subjects of illegal immigration or Islamic extremism.

I would like to know where the egg-throwing mob known as the UAF (United Against Fairplay?) was when a group of Islamic extremists was protesting against British soldiers who had come home from Iraq.

Where were they when Gerry Adams, leader of Sinn Féin, spoke in the very same Westminster spot as Mr Griffin MEP?

Where were they when a very brave Peter Tatchell stood up to Robert Mugabe's mob?

I don't agree with Mr Griffin's politics any more than I agree with the views of other elected party leaders such as Mr Adams and George Galloway.

However, all of these three men are democratically-elected

politicians. It seems to me that rent-a-mob wants to deny the electorate the right to choose.

It appears that the UAF would be more at home in the former East Germany, where the state would provide them with everything from the shoes on their feet to the thoughts in their heads.

I don't believe in all that new world order stuff, but we really do need to be concerned about this undemocratic, self-righteous bunch who call themselves protesters.

Name and address supplied to the editor

It's an odd way to remember the war

I was interested in the D-Day reports in last week's paper. But I do wonder what the people who re-enact the military stories add to the occasion.

People lost their lives during those battles and I do not feel comfortable with the fact people celebrate it by dressing up. It must look very strange to the real veterans.

Still, I suppose it gives younger people an idea of what went on during the battles of the last century, so maybe it is good as 'living history'.

Julian Paynter
by email

Voters should think carefully next time

The local elections may have been a disaster for Labour in Kent, but is anyone surprised?

The county has no history of voting anything other than

Conservative for as long as anyone can remember. And that's whether its local, national, or Euro.

So I don't think anyone can say the local disaster for Labour means much at all.

Across the country I know it wasn't a good night. But people should think very carefully about voting for the opposition.

Do we really want another Tory government in power? Goodness knows, the situation at County Hall is bad enough.

Emma Hope
by email

At least we didn't vote for the BNP

The elections may have been predictable, and Kent people have not been overly clever by interpreting national issues at a local level, but at least we're not as dumb as one part of the country.

At least this county did not return one of the odious BNP candidates to the European Parliament.

Yorkshire should be ashamed.

Maurice Hamilton
by email

From the Nazis to the nationalists

At the weekend when Britain, France, the US and the rest of the free world commemorated the D-Day landings which liberated Europe from the Nazis the electorate in this country sent two BNP members to the European Parliament.

How low Britain has fallen. I

shudder to think what many of our fallen heroes would think of such a situation.

Neil Holmes
By email

What about a ferry from Folkestone?

Plans for new cross-Channel services from Dover and increased profits predicted for the existing ones are all very well – but when is someone going to take the plunge and put Folkestone back on the cross-Channel map?

The old services to Boulogne were far more convenient than Dover to Calais – mainly because the town has much easier connections to the main French road system.

It is also a far nicer place to visit on a day trip.

Paula Wilmott
by email

Stop our politicians lining own pockets

New Labour's inability to accept responsibility for its non-existent domestic progress shows it is unfit to rule.

However, Tory complacency and arrogance will do us no good, either.

Party politics exists in a deliberately-created parallel universe, just like any other reality TV show – politicians like their cosy bubble.

Both Tory and Labour are full of nomenclatures and cronies, untalented yobbo egoists, content to carry on rotten parliament and remain on the take even

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though Parliament has been a let-down for more than 30 years. Political parties are the main problem. They have caused havoc for the rest of us while lining their pockets.

Rita Grootendorst
by email

Go back to university to relive the fun

Are you a graduate of the University of Leicester? If so, the university would like to invite you back on to campus for the 2009 Homecoming on Saturday, June 27.

There is no need to register – simply turn up on the day. There are many reasons to revisit your alma mater, including renewing friendships and visiting old haunts.

This summer, as part of the campus redevelopment plan, the Percy Gee Building will undergo a major transformation to create one of the best Students' Union facilities in the UK – this weekend will be your last chance to have a pint at the Redfearn Bar, and take home your own piece of history as we auction everything off.

We will also offer plenty to keep the children busy, including a free packed lunch for under-12s.

Even if you can't attend but would like to stay in touch, please email us on alumni.relations@le.ac.uk.

The day will also include tours of the campus – for details see www.homecoming.percygee.org

Lisa Davies
Alumni Relations Officer
University of Leicester
University Road
Leicester
LE1 7RH

Raise money to help us to stop meningitis

My daughter Alexia fell ill with meningitis just over two years ago.

Doctors said that had she been treated any later then chances were she would have died.

Thankfully, she received expert care and made a full recovery, much to our relief and amazement.

She's now a bright five-year-old and not a day goes by when I don't feel lucky to have her.

It's heartbreaking to know that hundreds of people die from meningitis and thousands more are left with devastating after-effects.

I want to use my 15 minutes of fame from *The Apprentice* to achieve something positive, which is why I'm taking this opportunity to

raise awareness of the disease.

I'm proud to support the work of Meningitis UK and its mission to eradicate meningitis completely.

Its Search 4 a Vaccine Campaign hopes to raise £7 million to help fund research to develop a vaccine against meningitis B, which causes almost 90 per cent of UK cases.

The number 4 signifies the devastating fact that meningitis can kill in under four hours.

As my experience shows, knowing the symptoms and seeking prompt treatment can make a vital difference to the outcome.

However, sadly, sometimes even if the symptoms are recognised, prompt treatment sought and the best medical care is given, it is still not enough to save a life.

This is why finding a vaccine is so important for future generations.

In the absence of a vaccine, Meningitis UK distributes a range of material to raise awareness of the common symptoms and the need to act quickly.

I would urge readers to make a donation to the Search 4 a Vaccine Campaign, or request a symptoms information pack, by calling Meningitis UK on 0117 373 7373 or visiting www.meningitisuk.org.

Lorraine Tighe
Former Apprentice contestant

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Flying into Margate



Don't miss Big Event weekend fun on the isle

MAGNIFICENT men in their flying machines will be entertaining the crowds at Margate's Big Event this weekend.

Billed as Kent's leading land and air festival, the two-day event will make the perfect Father's Day treat, with lots of aerial thrills and spills on offer. If spectators look to the sky, they will see some of the best flyers in the world performing for their entertainment.

The world's premier aerobatic team, the Red Arrows, will be paying a flying visit to demonstrate the breathtaking stunts that have made them such an unmissable treat. The Red Arrows were formed in 1965, following many years of all RAF training schools having their own aerobatic display teams. In 1964 the RAF decided to form a single, full-time professional team, which was first formed by the Red Pelicans flying six Jet Provost T Mk 4s.

Later that year they were succeeded by five yellow Folland Gnat jet trainers, known as the Yellowjacks, before the Red Arrows - officially known as the Royal Air Force Aerobatic Team - was formed at RAF

Fairford in Gloucestershire the following year.

Other planned aerial displays include the poignant Battle of Britain Memorial Flight, RAF Typhoon jets and more aerobatic delights from the Aerostars.

Come back down to earth in the nicest possible way with the fantastic entertainment lined up on land. Rock out to classic Queen hits during the spectacular music show, They Will Rock You, which pays tribute to a number of iconic music stars on Saturday night. This authentic performance of Queen's legendary live concert also features guest stars 'Tina Turner' and the Magic of the Bee Gees. A thrilling fireworks finale



will round off Saturday's entertainment in explosive style.

With street entertainers, a funfair and live music on offer, this year's Big Event looks set to be even bigger than ever. Refreshments will be available in the beer tent and food and drink village, while kids will be amused by the children's entertainers.

To help people reach the action, a free shuttle bus will be running from Margate railway station to Palm Bay during the event. Parking is available opposite the site, priced at £5, while those who choose to arrive on two wheels can reach the site using the Viking Cycle Trail.

The event runs from 10am to 10pm on Saturday and 10.30am to 6pm on Sunday, with a different programme of attractions each day. Treat Dad to a special Father's Day lunch in the VIP hospitality area on Sunday for £30 per person.

For more information, phone 0870 2646111, or visit www.thanet.gov.uk/margatesbigevent.

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DOVER CASTLE

Saturday and Sunday, June 20-21
Dover Castle



SEE how a royal home prepares for the return of the King as Dover Castle's Tudor-themed events continue.

To commemorate the 500th anniversary of Henry VIII's ascension to the throne, the castle is hosting a month of family events that are both fun and educational. This weekend visitors can find out how the royal household would have got ready for the arrival of their master, a big occasion that required much preparation.

Learn more about the extravagant feast that would have been laid on for the returning monarch and discover the dress code for such a momentous event. Entertainers will perform the music and dance that would have marked King Henry VIII's return, while the Tudor Cavalry will be busily practising their skills at arms display. Next weekend's final event, All The King's Guns, will explore Henry VIII's huge collection of firepower.

Tickets cost £10 for adults, £8 for concessions, £5 for children and £25 for families. Admission is free for English Heritage members. For more information call 0870 333 1181 or visit the website at www.english-heritage.org.uk.

WALMER AND DEAL CASTLES

Sunday, June 21
Walmer and Deal Castles



FATHERS can be king for the day at Walmer and Deal Castles by enjoying free entry on Sunday.

Celebrate Father's Day somewhere unusual and enjoy a day exploring the fascinating coastal forts built by King Henry VIII. To celebrate the 500th anniversary of Henry VIII's ascension to the throne, dads are being invited to visit the castles for free and discover them with their families.

At Walmer Castle (pictured) visitors can look around the reception rooms which are just as they were when used by the Queen Mother. See the Duke of Wellington's bedroom with his campaign bed and famous Wellington boots.

The young at heart will have a ball exploring Deal Castle's eerie underground passages, lower storerooms and first floor captain's residence. Visitors can enjoy the beach-front views from what is considered one of the finest Tudor artillery castles in England.

Admission to Walmer Castle costs £6.70/£5.70 for adults, £3.40 for children and £16.80 for families. Entry to Deal Castle costs £4.30/£3.70 for adults, £2.20 for children and £10.80 for families. Entry is free for fathers, English Heritage members and under-fives at both sites.



Picture VISIT KENT

JIM DAVIDSON

Thursday, June 18
Leas Cliff Hall, Folkestone



CONTROVERSIAL comedian Jim Davidson is On The Offensive again with his new stand-up show.

Although his outrageous material has sometimes provoked controversy, Davidson remains one of the UK's most popular comics and routinely sells out his tours. On The Offensive should be no exception, offering more of the no holds barred-style humour that has made him such a successful entertainer.

Davidson was a hit with viewers of TV talent show New Faces in the 70s and went on to become a popular family entertainer, hosting game shows Big Break and The Generation Game.

Davidson has been awarded Showbusiness Personality of the Year accolades by the Variety Club of Great Britain, the Grand Order of Water Rats and Comic Heritage. He has received an OBE for his services for charity, including his work as founder of the



British Forces Foundation, and On The Offensive was premiered in front of British troops on active service overseas.

The show starts at 7.30pm and tickets cost £20 each or £30 for two. To book, phone the box office on 0844 847 1776, or visit www.leascliffhall.org.uk.

LOUD & LIVE

Celebrate the Summer Solstice at secret place

MARK the Summer Solstice with a magical experience at the Secret Gardens of Sandwich.

A special evening tour of the beautiful gardens on Sunday will be an unusual way to celebrate Father's Day or the longest day of the year. The tour starts at 7.30pm and tickets cost £12. Tickets must be pre-booked by calling 01304 619919 or emailing info@thesecretgardens.co.uk.

Cultural diversity on show in Market Square

THE diversity of Dover will be showcased on Saturday at the annual Multi Cultural Festival.

Local artists and musicians from a variety of cultures will be performing and exhibiting in Market Square, giving people the chance to experience the wealth of cultural diversity in the town.

There will also be food and information stalls. The event runs from 11am to 4pm.

Pedal your way around picturesque routes

GET on your bike and enjoy the beauty of the Kent countryside with a ride from Sandwich to Rye.

As part of Bike Week, which runs until Sunday, Visit Kent suggests this route for experienced cyclists. The nine-mile section from Dover to Deal follows a scenic coastal path. More cycling ideas and attractions can be found on the website at www.visitkent.co.uk.

Get funky and put a smile on your Dial

AN EVENING of soul, funk and jazz/blues music is on offer when Left of the Dial perform this week.

The band has high musical standards and their live shows offer a good mix of exciting music, see the band at www.left-of-the-dial.co.uk.

Left of the Dial will play at the Archer in Sandwich Road, Whitfield, on Saturday. Call the pub on 01304 825890.

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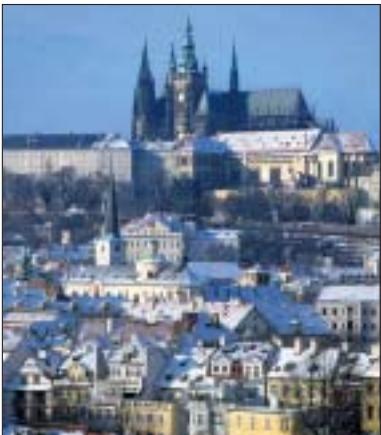
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Beautiful Bohemia

THE mention of Bohemia might have plenty of people in the UK – including even some seasoned travellers – scratching their heads and reaching for the map of Europe.

But after a visit to historic Prague, the capital of the Czech Republic, I found it a great place to escape the hustle and bustle – all within a 90-minute drive from the city and its airport.

From the converted 300-year-old farmhouse where we stayed in the village of Ujzed on the

■ BY PETER BEAL

edge of the Sumava National Park, we could walk all day through woods, hills and fields, seeing hardly another soul.

For real outdoor enthusiasts, it's possible to mountain-bike for more than 30 miles on undisturbed trails as far as the German border.

Two hours after leaving our farmhouse retreat, a walk brought us to the former silver-mining village of Hory Matla Boz – it means Mountains of the Mother of God – where our



host, guide and interpreter Richard Eccles took us into the local inn, the sort of place where time seems to have stood still.

I enjoyed a simple rustic meal of the delicious local soup kulajda, made of milk, cream, eggs, potato, cumin and dill, that arrived in a huge bowl and cost about 50 pence a head. It was washed down with a pint of beer costing about 65 pence.

The area's rich history is celebrated with joy in the fairytale town of Cesky Krumlov, about a 90-minute drive from the Ujzed farmhouse.

Painstakingly-renovated houses and cottages line the winding cobbled streets, squares and courtyards of what is hailed as one of the best-preserved Renaissance towns in Europe, together with one of the world's best two 17-century baroque theatres.

We ate in the welcoming cavern-like basement of the Satlav restaurant, where a huge barbecue grill warms the air.

Traditional garlic soup comes with a loaf of bread serving as its bowl (£1.50), while the main course of pecene koleno – roasted pork knee, with mustard, horseradish, bread and potato pancakes (£6.50) – could just about feed a family of four.

Beer fans will love Bohemia. The famous Pilsner Urquell brewery in Pilzen, producing beer for more than 170 years, offers informative guided tours and has an excellent museum nearby with its own pub attached.

We were taken to the Modra Hvezda Hotel in the picturesque town of Dobrany, where master brewer Petr Petrušásek, 42, single-handedly and lovingly produces 40,000 litres of ale a year, all of it drunk in the hotel and restaurant's own bars.

At 11am the wood-panelled bar and dining rooms, dominated by the copper brewing vats, were almost full with workers taking their traditional early lunch.

Petr produces his list of beers, ranging from a modest 3.8 per cent strength to an alarming 9 per cent special Christmas ale, and suggests we taste them all in turn. We opt for a more modest programme, bearing in mind the time of day.

He saw us on our way with a glass of his speciality pivní palenka – a spirit distilled from one of his beers with a strength of 50 per cent. Fortunately, we had a driver.

Travel details

- Peter Beal flew to Prague with bmibaby from Manchester. Daily flights start from £40.99 one way, including taxes and charges. BMibaby reservations: 0871 224 0224 and www.bmibaby.com.

- He was a guest of the Czech Farmhouse. B&B starts at £65pp per night. Visit www.czechfarmhouse.com, email helena@czechfarmhouse.com, or phone 07940 823 937 or 00 42 0376 394 073.

- Double rooms at the Hotel Josef in Prague start at 142 euros (approx £112) a night. Visit www.hoteljosef.com, or call 00 42 0221 700 930.

- The holiday home website www.holidaylettings.co.uk lists almost 50 holiday homes in Bohemia, ranging from apartments in central Prague to cottages in the Silent Valley National Park. Prices range from £100 per week for two people to £1,000 per week-plus for luxurious properties.



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rience the fully qualified and insured Joanne Woodward aims to offer the very best treatment possible – a professional bespoke service.

Joanne has been in business for just under a year. She trained as a nurse but was drawn to the world of alternative health seven years ago.

After moving to Hythe she saw a gap in the alternative health market two years ago and set up in business.

The business offers several unique treatments, bespoke products and brands not available elsewhere, such as Suki, Whish, Laidbare, Relax Kids and Mohdoh, to name just a few.

Everything needed for the mind, body and soul is on offer.

A hot stone massage and Thai herb compress massage are currently very popular, as they are very difficult to get locally.

The business is celebrating its first birthday throughout July with 25 per cent off all treatments.

A loyalty scheme, discount on block bookings and monthly discounts are also available, as are gift vouchers.

Products and vouchers – including Father's Day – can be bought online.

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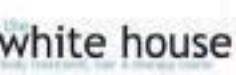
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Novelist gives mystery signing at bookshop

KENT author Lesley Cookman will be signing copies of her new mystery novel in Canterbury this weekend.

Murder in Bloom is Cookman's fifth book in the Libby Sarjeant detective series, set in Kent. Cookman will be at Waterstone's in Rose Lane at 3pm on Saturday.

Published by Accent Press, Murder in Bloom is priced at £6.99.

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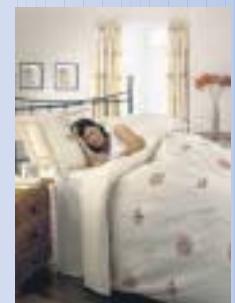
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YOUR TV REVIEW

■ BY JAMES ALEXANDRE

- MICHAEL McINTYRE'S COMEDY ROADSHOW**
BBC One, 9.30pm, Saturday
- AMERICA'S GOT TALENT**
ITV1, 10pm, Thursday

STAND-UP comedy has made a triumphant reappearance on Saturday night prime-time TV thanks to award-winning funny-man Michael McIntyre.

The 32-year-old's meteoric rise has been confirmed with his fronting of the new variation on the Live at the Apollo format.

The first of the series was held in Edinburgh, with McIntyre's pseudo-camp posturing proving a good foil for his light-hearted mockery of Scottish culture. His parody of everything Celtic, from Scotch egg to Scotch tape, went down well when he put on the brusque, Braveheart-inspired accent, as did his skit on wearing tartan kilts and sporrans.

He gave way to the first of four guest acts, Glasgow-born Kevin Bridges, whose measured delivery to stretch out the jokes was good but fortunate in that it lasted only ten minutes.

He was followed by Stewart Francis and Mark Watson, who were much wittier and sharper in their observation, topped by Rhod Gilbert, arguably the most well-known of the line-up alongside McIntyre.

Sean Lock, Al Murray and Patrick Kielty are among the other guest comedians scheduled to appear this series, in what should make for good entertainment.

Britain's Got Talent victim Susan Boyle has barely been out of rehab five minutes when another load of hapless wannabes have hit our screens.

Just ten minutes into the first episode of America's Got Talent, I decide, categorically, that I am never



FUNNY GUY: Michael McIntyre is the host of BBC1's new comedy show on Saturday nights

going to the USA. It's not just the cheesiness of judge David Hasselhoff or the baying, screeching crowd. It's the absolute over-the-top feeling that encompasses everything American.

I know the British version of the hit show is ridiculously edited to pull at the heart-strings, but at least the normality of Ant and Dec keeps your average viewer grounded.

In the first episode of AGT, it takes almost 15 minutes to introduce the judges with a tacky voiceover from Jerry Springer – a telling sign of what's to follow.

Attention is focused on Sharon Osbourne, Piers Morgan and David Hasselhoff – mainly as the contestants are so very uninspiring.

But so far, over a week into this show, I can honestly count the number of 'talented' people on one hand and Piers Morgan is somehow morphing into Simon Cowell as the 'scary' judge.

All he needs now is some high-waisted trousers.

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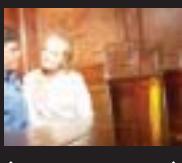
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AQUARIUS (Jan 21-Feb 19)

DON'T be shy with a newcomer on the social scene. Showing off your creative talent is the best way to capture their attention and win their heart. If you're already in a relationship, be sure to tell your beloved just how much you care. Sometimes actions aren't enough to calm their worries.

• To find out more about what the stars have in store call Russell on **Aquarius** 09067-531762



PISCES (Feb 20-Mar 20)

THE key to your happiness may be tuning out a meddling relative. They may say they want the best for you, but they don't really understand your creative nature. If you have to make a choice between financial security and creative fulfilment, you'll pick the latter every time.

• To find out more about what the stars have in store call Russell on **Pisces** 09067-531763



ARIES (Mar 21-Apr 20)

YOUR silver-tongued gift of the gab is highlighted this week making it a great time to strike up a conversation with a mysterious newcomer. The two of you will hit it off like strawberries and cream. A social outing may be cancelled, so it's wise to have a plan B in place, just in case.

• To find out more about what the stars have in store call Russell on **Aries** 09067-531752



CANCER (Jun 23-Jul 23)

IT'S probably best to keep your thoughts a secret. A misguided neighbour or relative is intent on pushing ahead with a plan and nothing you say will change that. Go ahead and let them make their own mistakes. Money you've been waiting for could be delayed.

• To find out more about what the stars have in store call Russell on **Cancer** 09067-531755



LIBRA (Sep 24-Oct 23)

AN upbeat attitude opens plenty of doors. Don't back down when dealing with a pessimist. A few well-chosen remarks may be all it takes to get them to see sense. A youngster shows some signs of backsliding, but by gently revising your approach they will get back on track.

• To find out more about what the stars have in store call Russell on **Libra** 09067-531758



CAPRICORN (Dec 22-Jan 20)

LEARN as much as you can about a computer program or gadget. Being technically savvy will make you a hot commodity on the job market. If you get offered a position go ahead and ask for a higher salary. Watch what you say around a young person or you could find yourself in hot water.

• To find out more about what the stars have in store call Russell on **Capricorn** 09067-531761

Calls cost 75p per minute. Service provided by g8wave London N7



TAURUS (Apr 21-May 21)

IT'S time to talk salary, even if you've been working somewhere for only a short time. If you feel you're being underpaid, speak up. Your employer won't be able to argue with your logic. If you can't get more money, ask to have your responsibilities scaled back.

• To find out more about what the stars have in store call Russell on **Taurus** 09067-531753



GEMINI (May 22-Jun 22)

GET straight to the point or you could miss a golden opportunity. Time is of the essence, particularly when it comes to love and money. It's probably best to keep your plans a secret, just to give you the inside track. A creative professional could show an interest in you and your work.

• To find out more about what the stars have in store call Russell on **Gemini** 09067-531754



LEO (Jul 24-Aug 23)

YOUR ideas are way ahead of their time so don't be surprised if not everyone instantly understands them or appreciates their true worth. At times you will grit your teeth with frustration over the short-sightedness of people around you but if you keep calm, you will prevail.

• To find out more about what the stars have in store call Russell on **Leo** 09067-531756



VIRGO (Aug 24-Sep 23)

NOTHING escapes your attention. This is a great time to go on job interviews and meet with authority figures. Whether you want a job or aim to change and improve the world around you is immaterial. You can move mountains through your powers of persuasion.

• To find out more about what the stars have in store call Russell on **Virgo** 09067-531757



SCORPIO (Oct 24-Nov 22)

GETTING someone to admit their deepest, darkest secrets is child's play to you. You have a knack of putting people at their ease and persuading them to open their heart to you. Take care that you use what you learn wisely. Using it to destroy a rival's reputation could backfire.

• To find out more about what the stars have in store call Russell on **Scorpio** 09067-531759



SAGITTARIUS (Nov 23-Dec 21)

YOU'LL catch more flies with honey than vinegar. Resist the urge to tell a misguided soul what's what. Their plans are totally absurd, but they're not prepared to hear that. Humour them with a few constructive comments and then suggest an alternate way of doing things.

• To find out more about what the stars have in store call Russell on **Sagittarius** 09067-531760



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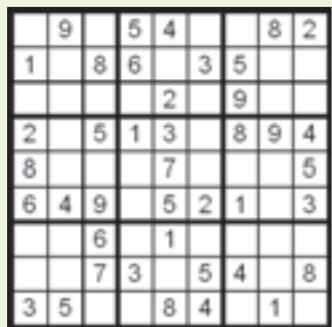
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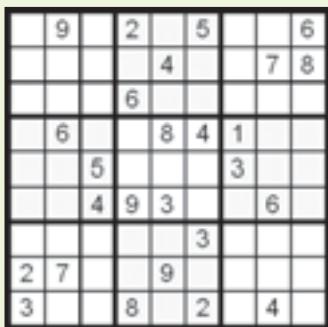
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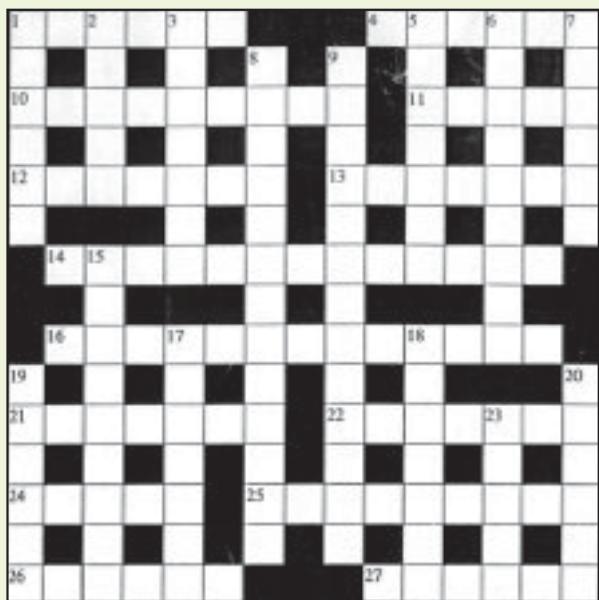
ACROSS

- Left with new title that is diminutive (6)
- Down-hearted Jack about to enter plane (6)
- Catchy number! (6-3)
- Table of church services (5)
- Not back as it is not a good hand (2-5)
- None of the family away in Scotland or Japanese island (7)
- Time one is put to the test - by lie-detector? (6,2,5)
- One cannot remember having it (5,2,6)
- Crude strange Scottish ramshackle hut (7)
- Sort out a Parisian quintet in real trouble (7)
- What habitual drinker has? (5)
- Nothing repeatedly to measure with this African river gauge (9)
- Happen to be arranging diet (6)
- Holiday that is a signal for disaster (6)

DOWN

- Los Angeles shelter was hidden (6)
- Deal with some of the theatre attractions (5)
- Let us say it can be found in salads (7)
- Bizarre sort of tray for hot coals (7)
- Dentist's fan? (9)
- Confounded dearth of fibre (6)
- Be ruthless, complete countdown (4,2,7)
- How VIP met with great success? (3,2,8)
- No new bill to be paid for later (2,7)
- 51 in group are wretched (7)
- Doctor taken in by lady on African xylophone (7)
- Reserve found prickly seed-case in outlying district (6)
- Ministers unusually grey class first (6)
- Chose to put incorrect mark (5)

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QUICK CLUES

ACROSS

- Metric weight (6)
- Everywhere (used to refer to cited works) (6)
- Theatre (9)
- Remove weapons (5)
- Made a strenuous effort (7)
- Silk fabric (7)
- Traitor (5,8)
- Dressage, cross-country riding and showjumping (5,3)
- Glass cover (7)
- Selected passage (7)
- Stylish (5)
- Coupé (9)
- A beard (anag.) (6)
- Grow furious (3,3)

DOWN

- Ground squirrel (6)
- Open-mouthed (5)
- Religious sage (7)
- Rock containing water (7)
- Search thoroughly (5,4)
- Vertebrate (6)
- Adobe (3-5,5)
- Annual horserace in USA (8,5)
- Furnish (9)
- Appreciated (7)
- Lymph (7)
- Spain and Portugal (6)
- Tasted (anag.) (6)
- Sovereign (5)

LAST WEEK'S SOLUTIONS

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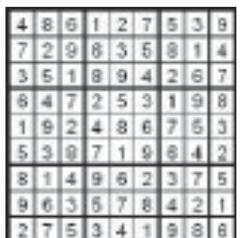
EASY



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HARD



Answers to all of this week's quizzes can be found on our website

CRYPTIC SOLUTION No91

ACROSS: 8 Blueprint 9 Heron 10 Amazement 11 Tampa 12 Pincer-movement 15 Urge 17 Dodge 19 Bell 21 Torture chamber 23 Franc 24 Switch off 26 Elite 27 Planetary. **DOWN:** 1 Clam up 2 Penzance 3 Drumhead 4 Anon 5 Shatter 6 Première 7 Unearthly 13 Medic 14 Justified 16 Germanic 18 Exacting 19 Bobwhite 20 Quicker 22 Reform 25 Wit.

QUICK SOLUTION No92

18 Vacuume 19 Dbera 20 Stated 23 Rule 24 Kneadily 25 Upholster 27 Employed 28 Mamal 8 Sun-dried brick 9 down 7 See and 10 Share 21 Befitter 22 Excerpt 24 Ritz 25 Goblet 26 Quicker 27 See and 28 Down 1 Gopher 29

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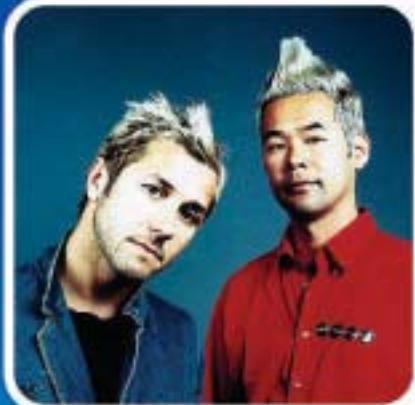
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FEEDER

With 28 hit singles and 6 top ten albums, the mighty Feeder will be bringing the greatest hits from their multi-platinum selling back catalogue to the main stage at this year's Hevy Music Festival.

Feeder formed in Newport, South Wales in 1992 by songwriter Grant Nicholas (vocals, guitar) and Jon Lee (drums), later joined by bassist Taka Hirose. The group's debut studio album 'Polythene' (1997) won the accolade of Metal Hammer magazine's #1 album of the year. It produced five singles including the song "High" which became Feeder's UK Top 40 breakthrough. Their second album 'Yesterday Went Too Soon' (1999), was their first appearance in the top 10 charts.

Their third album 'Echo Park' (2001), spawned the hit single "Buck Rogers" and became their first gold certified album, followed by the platinum selling forth album 'Comfort in Sound' (2002).

Their fifth album 'Pushing the Senses' (2005), became the band's highest charting release peaking at #2 and spawned a headline appearance at the Download Festival. The album's chart peak was matched a year later in 2006 by their singles compilation, and gained the band another platinum certification in the UK. In June 2008, the band released their sixth album 'Silent Cry', followed by a main stage appearance at Reading and Leeds festivals, where they performed 3rd on the bill, before Metallica and Tenacious D.



ASH

First formed in 1992, childhood mates Tim Wheeler (guitar/vocals), Mark Hamilton (bass), and Rick "Rock" McMurray (drums) shared a love for the raw British punk of the Buzzcocks and crafted their musical talents to take the Brit-pop scene by storm at the start of the decade. NME was swooning over these 'teen punkers from Belfast', and by 1994 Ash had signed to Infectious Records to issue the Trailer EP later that fall.

Their glossy youth was undoubtedly alluring, yet their Irish roots exuded a bit of an American flair similar to the likes of Pavement and the Lemonheads. They weren't even out of high school before three singles hit the Top Five in the U.K. indie charts. A year later marked Ash's full-length debut with '1977'.

They were headlining major festivals - T in the Park, Glastonbury, Roskilde, and Reading - and playing countless club dates across the globe. Their next controversial album, 'Nu-Clear Sounds' (1998), had Garbage's Butch Vig (Smashing Pumpkins, Nirvana) at the mixing board which delivered a much darker record. 'Free All Angels' followed in April 2001, with 'Meltdown', the band's first stateside release for Record Collection, arriving in spring 2005. In 2007 the group released 'Twilight of the Innocents', the album they claimed would be their last.

Interestingly, however, they also assured their fans that they were not breaking up; instead, they would only release singles in response to consumer trends.



GARY NUMAN

An awe-inspiring career spanning over 30 years with 22 studio albums (3 No. 1s), 19 live albums and 59 hit singles, the 'Godfather of Electro' and true living legend Gary Numan will join the main stage line-up for a rare festival appearance at this year's Hevy Music Festival.

His first solo single 'Cars' spent weeks on the charts in 1980 and paved the way for an entirely new genre of 'alternative' music. That seminal track helped usher in the synth pop era on both sides of the Atlantic, where he was a genuine pop star and consistent hitmaker during the early '80s. Even after new wave had petered out, Numan's impact continued to make itself felt; his dark, paranoid vision, theatrically icy alien persona, and clinical, robotic sound were echoed strongly in the work of many goth rock and industrial artists to come.

Over the next few years, bands like 'Hole', 'Foo Fighters' and 'Smashing Pumpkins' covered Numan songs in concert, and 'Marilyn Manson' recorded 'Down in the Park' for the B-side of the 'Lunchbox' single. Furthermore, several modern rock bands including 'Nine Inch Nails' often cite Numan as an important influence.

With a guest appearance on cult TV phenomenon 'The Mighty Boosh', and bands including MGMT, Fools, Late Of The Pier and Bloc Party bringing electronic music back into the mainstream once again, Numan has enjoyed a recent revival, and is often credited as being the 'Godfather of Electro'.

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Man battles the machines once again in a reboot of the Terminator series. The fourth film is a very bleak affair set in a desolate near future, with Batman star Christian Bale taking the role of humankind's saviour.

NIGHT AT THE MUSEUM 2 (PG)



Ben Stiller and Ricky Gervais return in the sequel to the 2006 family blockbuster, continuing the misadventures of the living exhibits from New York City's famed Museum Of Natural History.

Why Heather's stripper role has a ring of truth

■ BY ELLIE GENOWER

SOME people say it must have been a pretty good party if you wake up the next morning with no memory of what happened the night before.

But piecing together events that took place in an alcoholic haze can be a painful process - just ask the guys in Las Vegas-set comedy *The Hangover*.

Troublesome trio Phil (Bradley Cooper), Stu (Ed Helms) and Alan (Zach Galifianakis) wake up in their swanky Caesar's Palace hotel room after a stag night with no recollection of the previous evening.

There are a few clues: Stu's mysterious missing tooth, Phil's discovery of a baby in the wardrobe and Alan walking in on a tiger in the bathroom.

What's worse is that the boys have also lost Doug, their best friend and groom-to-be, and they have just 48 hours work out what happened and find Doug in time to make it back to Los Angeles for his wedding.

"A lot of people are going to relate to this movie," says Heather Graham, who plays a stripper in the comedy caper.

"Their night is just more horrible than you could have ever imagined."

Clearly, wild nights out aren't just confined to men, and you get the feeling the actress has had a few larger-than-life experiences of her own.

Indeed, she recalls ending up at a New York sado-masochistic dinner club on one hen night a few years back.

She says: "There's a menu which says 'you can be disciplined, you can be tied up, or you can spank or be spanked'. There was another bach-



GIGGLY: Heather Graham does yoga three times a week

elor party in there where a guy was spanking a girl."

Heather, wide-eyed, girly and giggly, doesn't appear 'dark' in the least. Perched on a chair in a garish Caesar's Palace hotel room, she looks cool and collected in navy blue La Roque shorts and a DKNY top, despite the searing Vegas heat outside.

In true Hollywood style, Heather appears

VIEW THIS PREVIEW

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much younger than her 39 years - which she puts down to eating healthy and three yoga sessions a week.

Having been linked with the likes of Ed Burns and Kyle MacLachlan in the past, Heather has now settled down with 32-year-old director Yaniv Raz.

"No, we're not engaged but we moved in together. It's fun." Marriage may not be on the cards yet, but she admits she is getting broody.

"I was never really that interested (in babies), but recently I'm like 'hmm, that could be fun,'" she says. "I've definitely been thinking about it more lately. I love babies. They are really sweet and they make you happy. They're just such pure joy."

THE HANGOVER

Certificate 15

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Fri - Sun - 8.50pm, Mon & Tue - 6.50pm
- **Religulous 15**
Sun - 2.50pm
- **Modern Life (La Vie moderne) PG**
Wed & Thur - 6.50pm

Booking Office: 01227 769075
Online bookings: www.gulbenkiantheatre.co.uk

Fatima Spar & The Freedom Fries

Thursday 25 June 7.45pm



University of Kent Canterbury

 "...an outstanding creation, powerful, rhythmically strong..."

Radio 3 - Spain

Tickets - Early Bird Deal!
First 200 will be sold at £5, with food £10
After first 200 sold all tickets £10, with food £15
Hot summer sizzlers, cool summer salads and specials from the grill.
Served from 6pm

Booking Office: 01227 769075
Online bookings: www.gulbenkiantheatre.co.uk

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Award Winning Company

yourmusic

Company searches for Diverse talent

IF you're looking for a chance to break into the music industry, a company from Kent is offering a unique opportunity to push ahead with your dream.

The exciting project from Diverse Music could enable you to get involved in music in a way you hadn't before thought possible.

The company is looking for fresh new talent in the county and wants to hear from you.

Diverse is offering free audition slots to anyone who may have something to offer.

The goal of the project is to create a talent bank of artists who could be put in touch with each other to share ideas or perform together. It could prove to be a hotbed of creativity,

■ BY TOM BETTS

with the facilities and technology to put down professional tracks at the Diverse studio in Bunting, near Ashford, already in place.

Bands, songwriters, solo artists, DJs and rappers are all invited to apply. Bookings for the auditions are being taken now.

The firm is run by three industry experts, with insider Malissa Whitehouse – who has worked with a host of big names like Travis and George Michael – heading up the team.

She wants to help newcomers pursue their dream and make a name for themselves.

She said: "This project is our chance to give something back to the music scene in Kent and we're hoping to find some great acts.

"We can help with their development and provide a doorway into the music industry for people who may not have had a chance."

Working with Malissa are producer Lee Golledge, who specialises in rock, indie and alternative material, and Tony Matthew, a former member of 80s soul band Soul II Soul.

The two are highly accomplished musicians and will be on hand to offer their advice to those who join the process.

Malissa added: "We're open to all kinds of artists – whether you're a band looking for exposure or a singer who wants expert advice or studio time, anyone can apply."

To enquire about an audition spot, email Malissa@popsessions.co.uk. Include a brief description of who you are, what you do and a picture of yourself.



SINGER: Chantelle Curling has already worked with Diverse

UPLOAD YOUR MUSIC VIDEOS TO BROADCAST ON OUR WEBSITE @ yourkenttv.co.uk



FESTIVAL FUN: Mystery Jets entertain the audience at Lounge on the Farm



LIVE: Singer-songwriter Lucy Kitt plays Laurel Canyon at Orange Street music club in Canterbury



KENT UNSIGNED CHART

- 1 Lost in Colour – Stay Awake Tonight (from Maidstone)
- 2 Directions – Stop Drop and Roll (from Maidstone)
- 3 Shelta – Let's Talk (from Bexley)
- 4 D-Finitive – Space (from Tenterden)
- 5 Ron Bowdery – The Old Dixie Highway (from New Eltham)



Celebrating our fourth year of bringing the hottest international music talent to Kent alongside the finest in local music, food, drink and entertainment. Lounge On

The Farm is a heavyweight music festival with a uniquely local twist. Family friendly and always full of surprises, this may be the best weekend to be had in Kent this summer. You heard it here first...

2009 - Top 20 music festivals (Telegraph) Best festivals for foodies (Guardian) Best Family Festival (Times2) 2008 - Top 10 Boutique Festivals (Times Travel) Top 20 Festivals you've never heard of (Observer Travel) Best Family Festivals (Guardian Weekly) Top 50 things to do this summer (Times Style)

Weekend Ticket - £85 Child Weekend - £45

Family Weekend - £180

Day Tickets - Adult £35 Child £25

For full line up and further ticket information head to

www.loungeonthefarm.co.uk



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FREE
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to your mobile.
(Saving you both time and money
in your search for romance).

WOMEN seeking men

SWEET DEBS

Hopeful, happy, shy girl, 22, loves all the normal stuff about life, searching for a mature guy, 24-39, for loving friendship and happiness. Box 880105

A VERY BUBBLY PERSON

Very shy young lady, 24, brown hair and blue eyes, seeks caring and outgoing man for good times and socialising. Box 492300

IT'S ALL ABOUT YOU BABY

Caring and honest lady, 25, blue eyes, blonde hair, looking for a sweet, caring and respectful non-smoking man, 25-35, for love, friendship and LTR. Box 879522

MATCH OF THE DAY!

Fun-to-be-with, blonde female, 25, 5ft2, a woman who loves football! Enjoys going out and staying in, looking for a like-minded man, to be her soulmate. Box 446494

NOT YOUR BROWN-EYED GIRL, BUT...

Blue-eyed brunette, 27, 5ft1, loves films, walking, darts, pool, singing, me time! Looking for honest guy with GSOH, to get to know. Box 880105

GETTING TO KNOW YOU...

Sociable girl, 28, loves pubs, social drinks, meeting new people, more, seeks similar male, 58-62, for a lasting relationship. Box 447535

DESTINY CALLING

Hello I'm 28, 5ft5, dark hair, blue-green eyes, likes going out, the cinema, the gym, looking for LTR with a loving, caring male. Box 452305

ME AND YOU

My best build girl, 28, brown hair, green eyes, seeking honest guy who looks after number one, for lasting relationship. Box 451834

GIVE AND TAKE IN LOVE

Loving loyal female, 30, blue eyes, brown hair, seeking LTR with male 30-35, gift, baggage, in the Maidstone area. Box 448471

HORSES FOR COURSES...

Caring, loving, affectionate female, 30, 5ft2, blonde, likes walking, horse riding, animals, seeks affectionate male, 30-40, for lasting, loving relationship. Box 384013

CUFFY female

32, 5ft9, brown hair, curly figure, enjoys having fun and a laugh and WLTN nice, kind gent. Box 439402

HAPPY DAYS!

Attractive, fun-loving female, 31, 5ft4", size 12, dark hair with blonde highlights, tactile, WLTM intelligent, professional, attractive guy, for a happy relationship. Tunbridge Wells. Box 308734

FIT FOR FUN

Petite, dark-haired girl, 33, 5ft, loves badminton, cinema and more, searching for an active man, with heart and soul. Box 881047

SOULD GOOD?

Hello I'm 35, kind, caring and non-smoking, enjoy cooking, cinema, music, dining in and out, looking for that special someone to enjoy a relationship. Box 447595

LIVING IT

Fair-haired female, 35, 5ft, loves the gym, pubs, nights out and fine company, searching for fun bloke, for life, love and laughter. Box 881011

UNDERSTAND ME

Open, honest straight girl, 37, 5ft6", slim, pale and cute, own home, searching for sensible, strong, young man, to help me relax and enjoy life. Box 451524

WISHFULLY YOURS

Loving female, 37, 5ft2, brown hair, slim, looking for honest, caring male with GSOH, for friendship, leading to more. Ashford. Box 449315

GALLOP AHEAD!

Maidstone-based woman, 36, 5ft5, slim, blue eyes, I'm caring, honest and have 4 children, enjoy drives and horse riding and WLTM honest, reliable man. Box 451311

QUICK, EASY WAY TO VIEW PHOTOS!

Just enter the six-digit Box number, followed by a space, then PHOTO and send to 82250
Your phone must be WAP-enabled - £1.50 per photo

ADDING PHOTOS!

Email: Send your photo and Member Number to: Louise@gwave.co.uk

Mobile: Register your number with us & send by SMS to 07788 203 777

Enter P2P as subject.

MMS - network charges apply.

CALL ME

Happy but shy girl of 37, loves normal things in life, seeks mature guy, hoping for something lasting and meaningful. Bexhill-on-Sea. Box 452424

SCOTTISH LASS

Maggie here, I'm a Scottish girl, 39, 5ft2, been living down South for nearly 16 years. I like pubs, cinema, wine bars. Box 883010

BLONDE AMBITION

Bubbly, cuddly, blonde single mom, 5ft6, likes cars, reading, pubs, nights in, having a laugh, looking for that right male for LTR. Box 905614

CUTE AS CAN BE

Cute single mom of four, 38, Kent-based, into lots of things, looking for friendship, possibly romance. Box 897983

ENTHUSIASM ENCOURAGED!

Lovely pretty big-busted lady, 39, medium build, 5ft5, lots of energy! likes the gym, reading, new experiences! seeking nice man for potential exciting relationship! Box 446724

THE WIT TO WOO!

Kent female, 40, 5ft7, dark eyes, GSOH, no lies, likes cosy nights in, socialising, country pub, cinema, seeks loyal, caring male, for friendship & more. Box 152362

FOR A RELATIONSHIP?

Sly but confident-once-known female, 40, likes socialising, tennis, walks, swimming, seeks gent with similar interests, to find love with. Box 452106

JOINED AT THE HIP

Socially petite girl with great SOH, 40, blonde, sociable, love football! Looking for fun guy with great SOH for inseparable partnership. Box 880434

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0808 156 5339**

(Calls are free; mobile rates may vary; check with your provider)

**COLLECT your messages:
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PROPERTY NEWS

Extra savings, even on good-value policies

ANYONE interested in being paid up to £100 simply for taking out home insurance? Or possibly even more than the cost of some premiums?

Many home insurance offers fail to live up to their promise but buying through a cashback website such as Topcashback can give genuine extra savings, even on policies that you have already confirmed as offering good value.

Experts analysing the market have pointed to the company as offering value for money on such deals.

For some policyholders, such commission rebates have worked out more than the cost of their annual premiums - with £67 the record overall profit, according to moneysavingexpert.com.

Household-name insurers that Topcashback offers rebates for include Aviva and Lloyds TSB, where up to £75 is on offer. However, cashbacks are not available on all insurers and there is no guarantee that these incentives will actually pay out.

We don't want to buy, we just want to snoop

A SURVEY by PropertyLive.co.uk has revealed that 20 per cent of people view houses just to snoop around other people's homes.

The survey found that one in five said they had viewed a property they could not afford and were not even looking to buy a home. According to the research, seven per cent said they liked to view houses to get ideas for their own homes.

Meanwhile, a previous survey conducted by PropertyLive.co.uk discovered that 12 per cent of people looked on property websites to find out how much their neighbours' homes were worth.

Peter Bolton King, chief executive of the National Federation of Property Professionals, said: "It's no secret that Britons are obsessed with looking at property, but what this research suggests is that for some people it has become a full-time hobby."

Interest rates are held

THE Bank of England has announced it is holding interest rates at 0.5 per cent for the third consecutive month.

The level of interest was announced alongside a continued focus on quantitative easing.

Housing market specialists were left unsurprised by the news, which had been predicted for some time. However, they added it was a good move.



KEY OF THE DOOR: The house rental market is starting to show a sustained recovery thanks to falling supply and rising prices, but the opposite situation exists for flats

Rent market for houses shows encouraging signs but flats lagging behind

HOUSES and flats have gone in different ways in the rental market, with houses beginning to show the first signs of recovery.

FindaProperty.com's rental index for May discovered the average asking rent remained unchanged, despite being 5.5 per cent lower than last year, with signs the rental market for houses and flats was beginning to divide.

A fall in house supply in the rental market was seen for the third consecutive month, as well as a modest rise in rents, while flats continued to suffer from rising supply and falling rents.

Properties were on the rental market for 16 days longer in May last year, with FindaProperty saying "there are early signs of recovery with monthly rental growth in the South East". Rental yield fell slightly to 4.56 per cent, with average yields now standing at

■ BY NICK AMES

4.31 per cent for houses and 5.25 per cent for flats.

Andrew Smith, head of the research, said: "A slowing in the increase of supply and signs that asking rents are beginning to stabilise indicate that we may be close to the bottom of the rental market."

Full swing

"However, the house and flat markets continue to polarise, with houses starting to show a sustained recovery thanks to falling supply levels and rising prices, while the flat market seems to be lagging behind with increasing supply levels and asking rents that continue to fall."

In the capital, asking rents were experiencing a rise of 0.4 per cent for May, now standing at

at £1,630 pcm, compared with the average UK asking rent of £819.

The largest month-on-month increase in rents was experienced in Scotland, where a rise of 0.9 per cent took the average asking rent to £693 per month.

The West Midlands also experienced a 0.3 per cent month-on-month increase in rental prices, which FindaProperty.com said was driven partially by a 1.9 per cent increase in rents for properties in Birmingham.

Mr Smith said: "In line with the overall picture of the UK rental market, there are some early signs of regional revival, with London and the South East leading the way in England, and Scotland also experiencing rental growth. However, there is still a long way to go until the recovery is in full swing."

"All of the regions continue to show year-on-year rental declines and a number of regional cities are still registering double-digit falls in price."

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BARTON ROAD £159,950
Family home. Lounge. Dining room. Refitted kitchen. Utility room. Ground floor cloakroom. Gas central heating. Double glazing. Enclosed rear garden. Favoured Charlton area.

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EYTHORNE £225,000
A well presented modern three bedroom semi-detached home offering accommodation arranged over three floors, entrance level, family bathroom with access to boarded loft.

Dover Office 01304 207099



MAYFIELD AVENUE £115,000
Well presented two bedroom terrace house with gas central heating, two reception rooms in the Charlton district.

Dover Office 01304 207099



ST. MARGARETS-AT-CLIFFE O1EOF £170,000
Well presented family semi-detached house. Three bedrooms. Three receptions. Cloakroom. Utility room. Kitchen. Bathroom. Good sized rear garden. Garage & parking.

Dover Office 01304 207099



SHEPHERDSWELL £260,000
Standing in a large plot. Detached five bedroom spacious bungalow. Your early viewing is recommended. Fitted kitchen. Bathroom. En-suite. Conservatory. Lounge. Garage.

Dover Office 01304 207099



SHEPHERDSWELL £260,950
Detached three bedroom house. Two receptions. Conservatory. Cloakroom. Kitchen. Utility room. Three en-suites. Shower rooms. South facing garden. Garage.

Dover Office 01304 207099



BOWDEN CRESCENT £154,995
Must view semi-detached house with two bedrooms. Lounge. Kitchen/diner. Garage & off-road parking for two cars. Situated in a cul-de-sac location.

Folkestone Office 01303 250757



SANDGATE £609,995
Exclusive family home with sea views. Four bedroom, three bathrooms. Sitting room with balcony. Kitchen/diner and dining hall. This is a must view property. No chain.

Folkestone Office 01303 250757



ILEX ROAD £244,995
This is a must view three bedroom family home situated in the sought after Cheriton area. Two reception rooms, off-street parking for two cars and attractive rear garden.

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SANDGATE O1EO £210,000
No forward chain. Three bedroom detached home situated in sought after location. First floor lounge with sea glimpses. Two bathrooms. Garage.

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WEAR BAY ROAD £164,995
No forward chain. This is a two bedroom semi-detached bungalow with attractive front and rear gardens 60'ft approx. Driveway & garage

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ELVINGTON O1EO £130,000
Six bedroom semi-detached house. Entrance Hall, Lounge, Kitchen, Utility Room, Wet Room and Two Bedrooms. The first floor offers WC and Four Bedrooms. Rear garden with workshop.

Kearsney Office 01304 823714



WHITFIELD O1EO £159,995
Two bedroom bungalow. Entrance Hall, Lounge/Diner, Kitchen, Family Bathroom. Front and rear gardens, garage, off road parking, central heating and double glazing.

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KEARSNEY O1EO £210,000
Four bedroom detached house. Entrance Hall, Lounge/Diner, Study and Kitchen. Family bathroom. Rear garden with decking, garage, central heating and double glazing.

Kearsney Office 01304 823714



RIVER £219,995
Four bedroom house. Porch, Entrance Hall, Downstairs WC, Lounge/Diner, Kitchen and Utility area. Family bathroom. Garage, rear garden, central heating and double glazing.

Kearsney Office 01304 823714



RIVER £219,995
NO CHAIN. Three bedroom detached house. Entrance Hall, Lounge, Dining Room, Kitchen and Cloakroom. Family bathroom. Double glazing, gas central heating, and rear garden.

Kearsney Office 01304 823714



ST. MARY'S BAY £164,950 FREEHOLD
Situated on popular 'Tree' estate. Three bedroom semi-detached bungalow set on corner plot. Gardens to side and rear. Garage. Double glazing and gas central heating. No chain.

New Romney 01797 363194



LYDD O1EO £100,000 FREEHOLD
Terrace house situated in Lydd benefiting from modern kitchen, master bedroom with shower cubicle and WC. Views over 'The Rye' from 1st & 2nd floor bedrooms.

New Romney 01797 363194



GREATSTONE £184,995 FREEHOLD
Three bedroom detached bungalow located at the end of the road abutting the nature reserve. Open views. Garage & off road parking. No chain.

New Romney 01797 363194



ST. MARY'S BAY £169,995 FREEHOLD
Detached bungalow offering two double bedrooms, lounge, kitchen, sun lounge, fully enclosed rear garden, detached garage and off road parking.

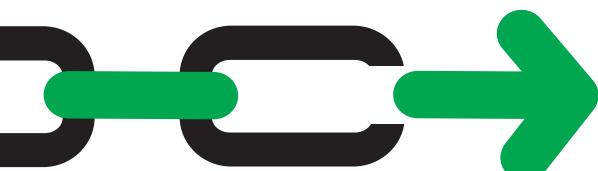
New Romney 01797 363194



NEW ROMNEY £279,995 FREEHOLD
Extended detached four bedroom house offering two receptions, conservatory, kitchen / breakfast room and utility, enclosed pretty front garden, rear garden & double garage.

New Romney 01797 363194

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PUBLIC NOTICE



Property Address:
10 Old Park Road, Dover, Kent, CT16
We are acting for the mortgagees and have received an offer of £105,000 on the above property. Any interested parties must submit any higher offers in writing to the selling agent before an exchange of contracts takes place.

DOVER



£120,000

Three bedroom terrace family house with double glazing, gas central heating, two receptions & utility room.

AYCLIFFE



£130,000

Three bedroom semi detached house with utility area and conservatory.

WHITFIELD



£137,500

Two bedroom terrace house with conservatory, central heating, double glazing, garden, garage.

DOVER



£139,995

Three bedroom end of terrace house with conservatory, garage en-block and gardens.

DOVER



£145,000

Two bedroom ground floor apartment in sought after sea front development. No chain.

CRABBLE



£145,000

Three bedroom semi detached family home, viewing recommended.

DOVER



OFFERS IN EXCESS OF £160,000

Three bedroom Grade II listed house with character features. Two receptions, cellar and rear garden.

RIVER



£162,500

Two bedroom apartment over two floors with roof terrace and galleried landing. gas central heating.

ST MARGARETS AT CLIFFE



OFFERS IN EXCESS OF £175,000

Three bedroom house, three receptions, utility, double glazing, gas central heating gardens garage.

DOVER



£175,000

COMING SOON. Four bedroom character property, two receptions, d. glazing, central heating & garden.

RIVER



£215,000

Four bedroom family home in sought after location with two receptions, conservatory and double garage.

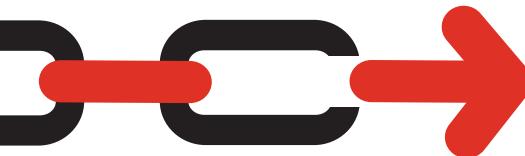
WHITFIELD



£279,950

Three bedroom detached house with two receptions, en-suite, conservatory, garage and gardens. No chain.

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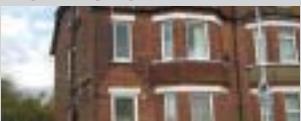
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FOLKESTONE



£99,995

Maisonette with entrance hall, lounge, fitted kitchen/diner, bathroom/WC and three bedrooms. Gas central heating.

FOLKESTONE



OFFERS IN EXCESS OF £115,000

Two bedroom top floor apartment in the West End of Folkestone and offered for sale with no chain.

FOLKESTONE



£136,950

A three bedroom family home with tiered front garden, conservatory, double glazing, gas central heating.

HYTHE



£158,000

Two bedroom cottage with two receptions, working fireplace, double glazing, gas central heating & garden.

FOLKESTONE



£152,500

This family home is offered for sale and comprises: lounge/diner, kitchen, three bedrooms, bathroom/WC & attic room.

FOLKESTONE



£165,000

Three bedroom family home with two reception rooms, good sized garden and fitted kitchen in Cheriton area.

7 DAY NOTICE

CHERITON



£169,950

A three bedroom family home with lounge diner, part double glazing, central heating and rear garden.

FOLKESTONE



£185,000

Split level apartment in close proximity of The Leas, ensuite and shower room, balcony, lift access and double glazing.

HAWKINGE



£219,995

Three bedroom end of terrace home in the sought after Pentland Homes development.

FOLKESTONE



£230,000

This substantial and well maintained five bedroom semi-detached house is set over three floors.

WESTENHANGER



£395,000

Lounge, dining room, kitchen, utility, three beds, two en suites, delightful gardens. Extensively refurbished.

FOLKESTONE



OFFERS IN EXCESS OF £480,000

Six bedroom period detached property. Over three floors with attention and detail paramount throughout.



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FOLKESTONE

£120,000



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- Price Range: £115000-£125000 • 2nd Floor Apartment
 - Balcony With Views Over Folkestone
- Two Double Bedrooms • Modern Integrated Kitchen
 - Lounge / Dining Room • Shower Room

DOVER

£95,000



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- 2 Bed Character Style Cottage • Garden
 - Gas Central Heating • Some Period Features

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There will be a mortgage application fee. The precise amount will depend upon your circumstances and will not exceed £399. A minimum fee of £299 applies.

Terms & Conditions: 1. The customer must sell and complete their house sale with **YOUR MOVE** prior to 31/12/09 and arrange a mortgage through us before you can claim £1000. 2. Offer is applicable to all new instructions up to and including 31/03/10. 3. The customer must have a point referred to as 'settling up' the sale of their old house. 4. Once the estate agency fee has been settled and the mortgage funds have been released and we have had confirmation from the lender, the £1000 cash back cheque will be payable within 28 days. It is **YOUR MOVE's** policy to respect any sole agency agreement currently in place. We will not market your property until this has expired or is terminated. If your letting is terminated or previous agreement you could be liable to pay for this one set fee. 5. **YOUR MOVE** is a trading name of your-move.co.uk Limited, a company authorised and regulated by the Financial Services Authority (FRN: 310467) for mortgage and non investment insurance advice. **YOUR MOVE** is a trading name of your-move.co.uk Limited, Registered in England No. 0186449. Registered office: Albany Court, Newcastle Business Park, Newcastle upon Tyne, NE4 7YJ. VAT No. GB842795983. *Calls may be recorded and/or monitored for training and/or data protection purposes. NEA181 02/2009

SALES

FOLKESTONE £192,000



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MOTORS NEWS



High-fiver Skoda also goes a touch greener

SKODA is taking orders on the Octavia Greenline, joining the Fabia and Superb Greenline in the Czech marque's line-up of most environmentally-friendly models.

Its frugal low emission (114g/km of CO2) 1.6-litre diesel is highly tax-efficient for company car users. Skoda – just confirmed in the JD Power customer satisfaction survey top five for the 14th year in succession – has also boosted Scrappage allowances on the Octavia range.

Prices range from just £8,995 for anyone trading in a car 10 or more years old.



Soul star sitting high in charts after launch

KIA sold 1,000 eye-catching Soul models within 100 days of launch – an impressive feat in the recession for a car breaking new ground for the UK and the Korean carmaker.

Half of sales were for the mid-range Soul 2, but Kia has tapped a rich marketing seam through 'Originals' custom packages, with the Soul Shaker landing 16 per cent slice of all sales; it comes with 18-inch alloys, houndstooth interior trim and reversing camera with a small LCD screen hidden in the rear view mirror.



Volvo celebrates taking top What Car? honour

VOLVO scooped top honours at the 2009 What Car? Green Car Awards with its S40 1.6D DRIVe featuring new Start/Stop technology.

The Swede beat the BMW 118d and Renault Megane in the small family category before storming to victory against other category winners helped by CO2 emissions of just 104g/km (£35/year road tax) and returning 72.4mpg on the official combined cycle, but also scored for practicality, safety and driver enjoyment.



LEADING THE WAY: The SLK looks good and is suited to long-distance business meetings or a weekend away with boot space for two decent-sized bags, even with the roof folded down

SLK's class shows in the race to be best crop top

IN one way the Mercedes-Benz SLK has been the top crop top since the original arrived in 1996, with an electric folding hardtop.

Only recently have some two-seat roadster rivals matched this secure and all-year weather protection, but the Merc struggled for credibility due to the first generation car's limp driving experience.

Fortunately, this image has been turned around by its 2004 replacement; while carrying over that clever roof – which makes the car look great when up or down – the SLK Mark II is sharper-suited with a front end inspired by the McLaren Mercedes SLR supercar.

The interior is well arranged, though starting to look cheaper as newer rivals emerge; the more affordable 200 Kompressor (£29,445) entry model wears it better than the £36,580 3.5-litre version tested here – especially when extras take the final bill to fifty-plus grand.

But you forgive lots when you walk out to the SLK; it looks good and is easy to get into when you have waited a long time to realise a two-seat dream.

ROAD TEST

MERCEDES SLK

■ BY STEVE LOADER

STAR QUALITY

Driving appeal



Image



Space



Value



Running costs



Reliability



Green rating



Once in motion, it feels solid even with roof down and the wind deflector – £210 extra, I'm afraid – and side windows allow easy conversation even at the legal motorway limit.

For the SLK is that rare sports car truly suited to a long distance business meeting or weekend away; the folded roof steals boot space, but there is room for two decent-size soft bags – capacity drops from 300 to 208 litres when the roof is retracted – and plenty of stowage inside the cabin.

The £200 'Direct Steering' pack on our car made the wheel a bit too light, but the SLK's rear-driven chassis is beautifully-weighted and the optional sports chassis (£185) is set up to hug even tighter to corners, yet ride quality is excellent for this category.

Past experience shows the test car's 229bhp 3,498cc V6 is probably the best power option, though the 200 Kompressor and awesome 5.5-litre V8 AMG mount strong arguments.

However, the smooth V6 feels blunted somewhat by the £1,575 seven-speed auto transmission. It changes smoothly, can be driven in manual mode and does not dent the car's performance, but I wonder if it might be liberated more by a self-shifter?



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USED CAR ROUND-UP: OUR PICK FROM A KEY SECTOR

FORD FOCUS ESTATE



NOT to be confused with the Focus C-Max MPV – another excellent alternative here – the standard estate offers that excellent Focus driving experience plus extra load lugging capacity. The Mark I estate is not as stylish as its replacement, but is the more practical and there is plenty of choice in the market; the arrival of the popular C-Max has made the Mark II estate a rarer item, but sought-after second-hand for its neat and classy rear end styling.

STAR QUALITY

Driving appeal	★★★★★
Looks and image	★★★★★
Space	★★★★★
Value	★★★★★
Running costs	★★★★★
Reliability	★★★★★
Quality	★★★★★

PEUGEOT 206SW



HERE is an MPV for people who do not want a car that looks like an MPV. Peugeot has a recent tradition for developing SW models that are really blown up estates with the space and versatility to attack rival MPVs without the penalty of being unwieldy or ugly. The 206SW is affordable with all the handling panache of the 206 hatch – Peugeot's best-selling model ever – and can be bought with one of the French marque's enviable diesel engines.

STAR QUALITY

Driving appeal	★★★★★
Looks and image	★★★★★
Space	★★★★★
Value	★★★★★
Running costs	★★★★★
Reliability	★★★★★
Quality	★★★★★

CITROËN XSARA PICASSO



LINES sometimes described as 'jelly mould' have not stopped the Picasso from being the best-selling midi-MPV for much of its life – it stands out from the crowd and is airy and spacious inside. Refinement and ride are good, although the latter also makes the handling feel woolly on the corners. There is the extra bonus of smooth and frugal diesel options too and, with lots of new Picassos sold, used car hunters are spoilt for choice and price.

STAR QUALITY

Driving appeal	★★★★★
Looks and image	★★★★★
Space	★★★★★
Value	★★★★★
Running costs	★★★★★
Reliability	★★★★★
Quality	★★★★★

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The £2,500 saving is dependant on the vehicle meeting the full Government scrappage incentive criteria. The Government scrappage payment applies to vehicles registered on or before 31st August 1999 when traded-in against a new car subject to conditions. Not available in conjunction with any other offer. Terms & Conditions apply. Offer is subject to availability and may be varied or withdrawn at any time. At participating retailers only. Please see your local retailer for full terms and conditions.



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04 Skoda Octavia 1.9 TDI PD Elegance 5-Dr Hatchback, Beige Metallic, 43,750 miles, Manual, Diesel	SOLD
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57 Skoda Octavia A4 1.9 TDI PD Classic 5-Dr Hatchback, Finished in Dynamic Blue with a Black Cloth interior, 55,836 miles ..	£6,795
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Closing date: Friday 26 June

Mid-Kent College is working in partnership with RBLI Employment Solutions to support individuals who have a disability or health condition in the application, interview and employment with the college. If you would like any further information regarding RBLI, or require assistance with your application process then please contact RBLI on 0800 783 1144 or visit their website www.rbli.co.uk for information, advice and guidance.

The College is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people and expects all staff and volunteers to share this commitment. Any offer of employment is subject to a Criminal Records Bureau check in accordance with the College procedure.

Application forms and further details are available from www.midkent.ac.uk. Alternatively, please e-mail job.applications@midkent.ac.uk. For individuals without access to e-mail or the internet please call the Personnel department on 01634 884402 (24 hour answer machine). In all communication with the College please quote the appropriate job title and reference number.

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The successful candidate will be required to undertake a CRB Enhanced Disclosure check prior to the start of employment.

Please apply via email to Mrs Tanya Utton, Headteacher at: info1@ursuline.kent.sch.uk

Closing date: Friday 26th June 2009

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The school is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of the young people in its care and all posts are subject to an enhanced CRB disclosure.

Closing Date is 22 June 2009.

Please send an A4 sized SAE
(with 61p stamp) for an application pack to:
Brenda Fallon, Laleham Gap School, 1 South Cliff Parade, Broadstairs, CT10 1TJ

E-mail: office@laleham-gap.kent.sch.uk

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- To apply, send a CV and covering letter to: Dave Hobday, Head of Subbing or email dave.hobday@kosmedia.co.uk.



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We also have opportunities for freelancers – email your CV to stephen.king@saga.co.uk to find out more.

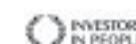
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Mrs Wendy Pound, Business Manager on 01622 753322

Closing date for applications
12 noon Friday 26th June 2009

To advertise in this section
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Email- office@stone-bay.kent.sch.uk

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For an application form and job description please telephone 01843 863421, write to Ann Hickmott, Stone Bay School, 70 Stone Road, Broadstairs, CT10 1EB, or e-mail to office@stone-bay.kent.sch.uk

Completed applications to be received by Friday 3rd July 2009.
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Job Descriptions and Application forms can be found at www.midkent.ac.uk (follow RSME vacancies)

Please forward completed applications to ken.pullan@midkent.ac.uk and/or call 07725 128661 for an informal discussion on any of these positions.

Closing date: 1st July 2009

The College is committed to Equal Opportunities and all selection on merit. It welcomes applications from all sections of society. We particularly welcome and encourage applications from under represented groups including black, minority ethnic and disabled people.

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Application forms may be obtained from the KRAM office at 9 Priory Road, Dover, Kent CT17 9RQ, Tel: 01304 215758 or ann@kran.org.uk
The closing date for applications is Monday June 29th

PUBLIC NOTICE

KENT COUNTY COUNCIL THE MARRIAGE ACT 1949 AND CIVIL PARTNERSHIP ACT 2004 APPROVED PREMISES FOR CIVIL MARRIAGES & CIVIL PARTNERSHIPS

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Name of Premises: Wallets Court Hotel, Dover Road,

Westcliffe, Dover

Applicant: Gavin Oakley

The application and plan of the premises may be inspected at the address below during normal office hours. Any person may give notice in writing of an objection to the grant of an approval, together with the reasons, within 21 days from the date of this newspaper. Objections should be sent to the address below.

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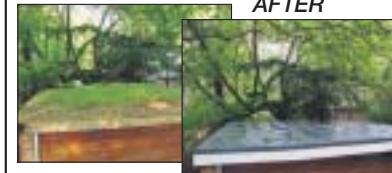
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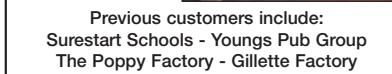
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CRICKET

BY DAVID PRITCHARD

Kent League Division Four

Rodmersham 1st XI v Walmer 1st XI

RODMERSHAM stayed in touch with the leaders in Division Four after thrashing Walmer by 122 runs on Saturday.

The visitors' may have been questioning their decision to put Rodmersham into bat as the home side piled on the runs. Robert Horne and Dave Cogger put on 58 before the latter was run out, but it failed to stem the flow of runs.

While none of the hosts' line-up passed 50, a string of decent knocks kept the scoreboard ticking over and they reached 230 by the time they were all out in the final over. Andrew Cotton took 4 for 35 to knock over the tail cheaply, matching the number of victims notched up by Alan Cookson at the top of the order.

After losing Martyn North with just one run on the board, Walmer always looked to be fighting a losing battle. Only two of their batsmen reached double figures, their middle order tormented by Jack Bayford on his way to 5 for 12.

Only the gift of a generous extras column which included 16 wides took Walmer past 100, but they finally succumbed to the inevitable in the 37th over.

Victory kept Rodmersham fourth, while Walmer are one of four sides just above the bottom two nervously looking over their shoulder.

Walmer's batsmen fail in heavy weekend loss



BIG HIT: Rodmersham's Lee Jackson looks for the big shot on his way to 45 as his side beat Walmer comprehensively on Saturday

SCOREBOARD

Rodmersham

	Runs
Dave Cogger run out	18
Robert Horne b Cookson	33
Jamie Horne ct Parnell b Cookson	24
Sandeep Rodrigo lbw b Cookson	14
Dylan Emmett not out	39
Lee Jackson ct Parnell b Cookson	45
Sushant Karanputkar ct Cookson b Cowlishaw	23
Michael Willis b Cotton	0
Nazoomi Azhar ct North b Cotton	0
Darren Nokes b Cotton	12
Jack Bayford b Cotton	0
Extras (1lb 6lb 3lb 3nb)	22
Total (all out, 49.5 overs)	230

Bowlers

	O	M	R	W
Barry Green	12	1	58	0
Andrew Cotton	10.3	0	35	4
Alan Cookson	14	5	53	4
Edwin Cowlishaw	13	0	68	1

Walmer

	Runs
Martyn North ct R Horne b Rodrigo	0
Mark Parnell ct R Horne b Nokes	7
Peter Morris b Nokes	25
Andrew Cotton b Bayford	4
Graeme North not out	26
David Miller b Bayford	4
Edwin Cowlishaw b Bayford	0
Barry Green ct R Horne b Bayford	4
Eoin McGrath b Bayford	0
Alan Cookson b Azhar	5
Rod Cotton b Rodrigo	1
Extras (9lb 5lb 16w 2nb)	32
Total (all out, 36.4 overs)	108

Bowlers

	O	M	R	W
Sandeep Rodrigo	7	0	38	2
Darren Nokes	8	3	17	2
Dylan Emmett	3	1	2	0
Sushant Karanputkar	0	4	0	0
Jack Bayford	6	2	12	5
Nazoomi Azhar	7	3	10	1
Michael Willis	3	1	11	0

LOCAL CRICKET ROUND-UP

KENT LEAGUE DIVISION ONE

Folkestone 1st XI v Tenterden 1st XI

A DISASTROUS batting collapse saw Folkestone comfortably beaten by six wickets against Tenterden to leave them just three points above the bottom two.

The home side chose to bat after winning the toss and at 78 for 3 looked in good shape. But Daniel Clark's dismissal sparked an almighty slump which saw six more batsmen dismissed with just 17 runs added to the total.

Tenterden reached the lowly target with 18 overs to spare.

Folkestone

	Runs
Anthony Stanley	8
David Miles	12
Ashok Kadam	20
Daniel Clark	28
Luke Sage	10
Laurence Ward	2
Karl Boffey	3
Andy Bray	5
Michael James	1
Ryan Currie	2
Liam Hark	0
Extras	4
Total	95

Bowlers

	O	M	R	W
Ben Daking	15	5	33	0
Mark Brann	6	1	18	1
Timir Chanda	10	5	13	4
Mark Baker	12	1	29	3

Tenterden

	Runs
Daniel McDonald	15
Andrew Crawford	36
Nick Daynes	23
Paul Brann	14
Timir Chanda	0
Scott Freeman	5
Mark Brann	did not bat
Mark Baker	did not bat
Ben Daking	did not bat
Tim Currie	did not bat
Tevis Knight (Jnr)	did not bat
Extras	5
Total	98

Bowlers

	O	M	R	W
Michael James	6	1	18	0
Andy Bray	6	2	27	0
Ashok Kadam	10	4	10	1
Ryan Currie	9.4	2	42	3

KENT LEAGUE DIVISION ONE

Sandwich Town 1st XI v Canterbury 1st XI

SANDWICH Town moved up to third in the table after they beat Canterbury by five wickets in a low scoring game at the Butts.

Craig Spanton struck twice early on as Canterbury slumped to 16 for 3, but the visitors rallied thanks to Simon Cusden's 42.

Chasing 150 for victory, Sandwich rarely looked troubled thanks to Robert Goatham's unbeaten 49 and reached their target with almost four overs to spare.

Canterbury

	Runs
Matthew Jenkinson	5
David Carter	6
Luke Samarasinghe	4
Simon Cusden	42
Russell Griffiths	21
Chris Jay	18
Justin Macvicar	30
Simon Smith	7
Damian Minter	3
Tim Wren	0
Ben Cooper	8
Extras	5
Total	149

Bowlers

	O	M	R	W
Craig Spanton	10	2	18	2
Jack Bradley	6	1	26	1
David Draper	10	1	44	1
Matthew van Poppel	14.1	3	32	3
Robert Goatham	9	2	27	1

Sandwich Town

	Runs
Stuart Smith	11
David Scoggins	29
Robert Goatham	49
Vishal Singh	15
David Draper	5
Rhys Jones	12
James Bolt	20
Gavin Lawrence	did not bat
Craig Spanton	did not bat
Matthew van Poppel	did not bat
Jack Bradley	did not bat
Extras	10
Total	151

Bowlers

	O	M	R	W
Damian Minter	5	2	22	1
Justin Macvicar	5	1	25	0
Ben Cooper	11	2	31	1
Tim Wren	15	2	39	3
Luke Samarasinghe	10.2	0	31	0

KENT LEAGUE DIVISION TWO

Broadstairs 1st XI v Sibton Park 1st XI

A GRITTY innings from Sibton Park skipper Steve Hobbs saw his side beat Broadstairs by one wicket in a low-scoring game.

Broadstairs were under pressure early on and only a cameo by Liam Narraway saw them pass three figures, but the victory target of 117 looked insufficient.

The league leaders very nearly made a mess of the run chase and were grateful to Hobbs, who took 50 balls to reach 15, to see them home.

Broadstairs

	Runs
Michael Ross	18
Terry Bond	7
Scott Narraway	1
David Cooper	0
Neil Brennan	14
Sam Winsor	13
Bradley Ellison	3
Chris Kidd	7
Liam Narraway	25
Andrew Marshall	7
Martin Rattigan	7
Extras	14
Total	116

Bowlers

	O	M	R	W
Steven Rowe	9.2	1	21	2
Trevor Lewis	10	0	28	2
Sam Newman	6	0	16	1
Sam Newman	10	3	32	1
Andy Allon	7	1	16	3

Sibton Park

	Runs
George Leadbetter	1
Andy Allon	5
James Keeler	3
Ben Carberry	4
Steve Hickmott	28
Martin Rattigan	22
Steve Hobbs	15
Steven Rowe	13
Sam Newman	1
Tim Smith	2
Trevor Lewis	0
Extras	23
Total	117

Bowlers

	O	M	R	W
Chris Kidd	16	7	24	4
Bradley Ellison	15	5	41	1
Martin Rattigan	5	1	27	2
Liam Narraway	4	0	11	1
Michael Ross	1	0	1	1
Andrew Marshall	0.1	0	5	0

KENT LEAGUE DIVISION FIVE

Chislehurst & West Kent 1st XI v Bettleshanger Colliery Welfare 1st XI

A CENTURY partnership between Clive Towe and Liam Collins set up a winning draw for Bettleshanger Colliery to keep them in touch with the leaders in Division Five.

After losing Chris Garton for a duck, Towe and Collins put on 123 for the second wicket. Their innings laid the foundations for an imposing 261 from their 50 overs.

The home side began well but after falling

Scott took the crown at Prince's play-off



CUT: Hythe's Ant Tarchetti was unable to make the most of home advantage

PRINCE'S Golf Club hosted a dramatic finish to the Partypoker.com European Championship as Scott Jamieson clinched victory on a play-off.

The 25-year-old from Glasgow birdied the second extra hole to win the EuroPro Tour event on Thursday, beating fellow Scotsman Elliot Saltman at the course in Sandwich.

He told EuroPro's website: "Once you are in the play-off it turns into matchplay and I've always enjoyed that. There were definitely nerves on those play-off holes."

Going into the final round there were ten players within two shots of the lead. Difficult conditions made scoring tougher than on the previous two days, with just one of the 51-strong field breaking 70.

Jamieson began the day two shots behind joint leaders

GOLF

Saltman and Chris Hanson, but picked up three birdies on the front nine to move into contention. He came back in level par to finish the tournament on nine-under-par.

It only looked enough for second place as Saltman came down the 18th one shot clear, but a bogey five set up a play-off.

Despite a host of local players in the field the majority missed the cut, including Prince's professionals Zane Scotland and Ant Tarchetti. Herne Bay's Steven Tiley, representing Royal Cinque Ports, was the highest local finisher in a share of 12th place.

The tour returns to Kent in August with the Virgin Atlantic 25th Anniversary Classic, held at Tudor Park near Maidstone.

RUGBY



TALENT: Ollie Brooks won most promising player award

Rising star Brooks scoops prize at awards ceremony

AFTER an excellent season in the Folkestone first-team, Ollie Brooks was named as the club's most promising player at the end of season awards.

Simon Harris won club player of the year and was also the supporters' choice, while Ben Crawford won the closely fought young player gong.

While the senior side of the club is in good health following a fourth place finish in London 4 South East, the juniors recently showed they are going from strength to strength. Last month 170 youngsters crossed the channel to take part in an end of season tournament near Calais.

After an absence of six years the Stones once again entered the Challenge Jacques Ducasse tournament, held annually in Bethune. Of the 14 clubs at the event, only Folkestone and a team from Holland came from outside France.

The sizeable travelling party enjoyed mixed success, with the under-sevens the outstanding side, as in previous years.

With the French youth sides not playing tag rugby like their counterparts in the UK, the tournament was the first time the under-sevens had experienced full contact. The handicap did little to dent their progress as they reeled off a series of victories to finish the group stage unbeaten. They went on to beat Bethune A in the final to lift the trophy.

The other Folkestone age groups didn't hit the same heights. The under-eights made the quarter-finals of their competition, while the under-nines went one stage further only to be knocked out in the last four.

The under-tens and 11s played each other in the tenth place play-offs, while the under-13s and 15s both finished third in their age group. The latter took a squad of 42 players, enough to field three teams.

Hailed as a successful tour, the club hope foreign trips will become a regular event.



STAYING: Despite speculation linking him to Championship side Watford, Dover Athletic manager Andy Hessenthaler will remain in charge at Crabble as the new season nears

Hess stays at Crabble despite Watford link

FOOTBALL

■ BY TOM HOWARD

ANDY Hessenthaler insists he is focused on building his Dover Athletic squad for next season, following a week of speculation linking him to the vacant Watford manager post.

Several bookmakers stopped taking bets last week on the Dover boss taking over at Vicarage Road after Brendan Rodgers left the club to join Reading. But Hessenthaler, who has never hidden his desire to return to Football League management, said he never had any contact from the Championship side.

Hessenthaler, who played 195 times for the Hornets between 1991 and 1996, fast became one of the favourites for the Watford job, but the club's directors instead were expected to plump for reserve boss Malky Mackay.

Whites fans will be relieved the 43-year-old is staying at Crabble. Hessenthaler has been an instant success since joining Dover, winning consecutive Ryman South and Premier League titles.

With his side set for an assault on the Blue Square South next season, Hessenthaler says he is concentrating on bringing more success to the town.

Elsewhere, the Whites have added to their defence with the signing of former AFC Wimbledon central defender Jake Leberl.

Hessenthaler said: "I am glad we have signed Jake. He is a player who comes to us

with experience and he knows the club well after his previous spell at Dover. We are a fairly young side, especially now without Alan Pouton, so his experience will be key in the Blue Square South."

"I have seen him play a few times and I remember he had a great game for AFC Wimbledon against us in the FA Cup last year.

"He is not particularly tall for a centre-half, but I envisage him playing there as his primary position, even though he can play in midfield."

Hessenthaler is also in the market for a striker but says he may have to wait until the season begins before he can bring someone in.

He said: "On the striker front I am in talks with a couple of players. We may have to be patient and wait. We have got a number of trialists coming down, so I will have a look at them in the next few weeks."

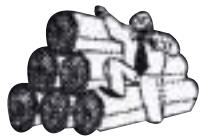
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